FBIS DAILY REPORT

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VOICE OF PALESTINE REPORTS ON OPERATION IN ISRAEL

NC150721 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0659 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Last night, Palestinian revolutionaries carried out a heroic operation against the positions of the Zionist enemy forces in the Hanita settlement in occupied Palestinian territory. A group of Palestinian revolutionaries clashed with enemy forces for 3 hours using machineguns, handgrenades and explosive belts. A number of Zionist soldiers were killed or wounded. The enemy has admitted to only five dead. Three heroes of the Palestinian revolutionaries were martyred in the operation.

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine in Damascus has distributed a statement on the operation.

PLO EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ISSUES STATEMENT ON 15 MAY ANNIVERSARY

NC150851 (Clandestine) Voice of Palestine in Arabic to the Arab World 0645 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] On the occasion of the 15 May, the anniversary of the usurpation of Palestine, the PLO Executive Committee issued a statement saying: For over 10 days, the Zionist occupation authorities have been carrying out terrorist and savage practices and oppressive aggressions daily against the sons of our Palestinian people in the occupied territories in the towns of Hebron, Nabulus, Jerusalem, Ramallah, Halhul, Tulkarm, 'Anabata, Gaza and other towns and villages.

The enemy has imposed a savage siege on these towns and villages to the extent of preventing the delivery of medical and food supplies to the citizens--which has led to a serious shortage of food, threatening hunger and the spread of contagious diseases for lack of any form of medical services.

While following up and observing what has long been taking place--the imposition of curfews, oppression, terrorization and killing of Palestinian citizens, arbitrary detentions, physical and psychological torture, destruction of assets and properties and killings and suppression that have gone beyond all limits--the PLO Executive Committee states that world public opinion is today urged to stand up in the face of this criminal Zionist terror, barbarism and the programmed destruction of the sons of our Palestinian people in the occupied territories.

The PLO Executive Committee calls on Arab and world opinion to move swiftly and firmly to put an end to this racist, Zionist terror and to halt the continuing crimes against our Palestinian people inside and outside the occupied territories--crimes being committed by the racist, fascist, Zionist occupation authorities.

Our people hold the United States fully responsible for the serious events that are taking place. The United States encourages aggression, supports its continuation and escalation and encourages the terrorist Zionist leaders. It supplies them with all the weapons of destruction, including weapons that are being used today against our defenseless people in the occupied homeland. It also participates with them in foiling international resolutions or subverting them by using its diplomatic and political influence, including the use of the right of veto, against just resolutions in favor of our Palestinian Arab people. All this leads to further terror, oppression and continued occupation of Palestinian and Arab territories by the Israeli military gang.

We urge world conscience, the world's peoples and all national, progressive, democratic and peace-and-freedom forces to support our people in their just struggle against these unjust forces and against the hateful racist, fascist, Zionist occupation.

BAHRAIN

LIBERATION FRONT DECLARES 15 MAY DAY OF MOURNING

JN141839 Tehran International Service in Arabic 1750 GMT 14 May 80

["Text" of statement by the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain, distributed in Beirut on 13 May 1980]

[Text] In the name of God the merciful, the compassionate, whoever holds in honor the symbols of God, such nonor should come truly from piety of heart. [Koranic verse] O masses of our Muslim people: Faithfulness to the blood of martyr hero the late Jamil 'Ali Muhsin al-'Ali is a sacred duty imposed by the holy Islamic law.

Our martyr, who stood fast like heroes in the prisons of the pharaoh clan of Al Khalifah was a good example of the holy verse: Verily those who say, "our lord is God," and remain firm on that path--on them shall be no fear, nor shall they grieve. [Koranic verse] This martyr has sacrificed his life for you to overthrow the rule of pre-Islam and bring about the rule of God. Therefore, you should not withhold from honoring him but should declare Thursday, 15 May 1980, a day of mourning in which you close shops, attend mourning ceremonies and go to mosques to say prayers for his chaste soul. This martyr is the first sacrifice offered by our Muslim people in the process of protest against the abortive U.S. military intervention in Iran.

Glory and immortality to our innocent martyrs. Long live the world Islamic revolution under the leadership of Imam Khomeyni.

Beirut, the Islamic Front for the Liberation of Bahrain. 13 May 1980

FRENCH DEFENSE MINISTER VISITS BAHRAIN 13-15 MAY

Report on Arrival

JN131105 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0755 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] Manama, 13 May--French Defense Minister Yvon Bourges arrived in Manama from Doha this morning on a 3-day visit to Bahrain. The French minister was received upon arrival in Manama by Bahraini heir apparent and Defense Minister His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah and a number of high-ranking officials.

In a statement to the GULF NEWS AGENCY, the Bahraini heir apparent welcomed the visit of the French minister. He also expressed his belief that this visit will have a positive impact on cooperation between the two countries. He said: Cooperation in the military fields is continuing between France and Bahrain, particularly as regards benefiting from French expertise in the field of military science and other related fields. On the nature of the talks to be held with the visiting minister, his highness said: The talks will focus on bilateral relations and ways to promote them, the current international situation in general and the European situation in particular, as well as on developments in the Arab arena and the French stand on the Palestinian issue.

Meeting With Amir, Premier

JN131110 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1045 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] Manama, 13 May--Amir of Bahrain His Highness Shaykh 'Isa ibn Salman Al Khalifah received here today French Defense Minister Yvon Bourges and his accompanying delegation, who arrived in Manama earlier today.

During the meeting, bilateral relations and means of developing them were discussed.

After their meeting with the amir, the members of the French delegation were received by Bahraini Prime Minister Shaykh Khalifah ibn Salman Al Khalifah.

The two meetings were attended by His Highness Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, heir apparent and commander in chief of the armed forces; Foreign Minister Shaykh Muhammad ibn Mubarak Al Khalifah; Chief of the Army Staff Brig Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah and the French ambassador in Bahrain.

Report on Department

JN150741 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 0720 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Manama, 15 May--This morning, French Defense Minister Yvon Bourges and his accompanying delegation left Manama, following a 3-day visit to Bahrain that came at the invitation of staff Maj Gen Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Bahraini heir apparent and commander in chief of the armed forces.

During his visit, the French defense minister held talks with high-ranking Bahraini officials dealing with the promotion of bilsteral relations, particularly in the military fields, and with the benefit to be derived from French expertise. He also discussed issues of common interest, the regional situation and those on the Arab and international levels.

The French defense minister was seen off by His Highness Staff Maj Gen Shaykh Hamad ibn 'Isa Al Khalifah, Chief of the Army Staff Brig Gen Shaykh Khalifah ibn Ahmad Al Khalifah and French Ambassador to Bahrain Maurice Pierre Bougerhouse.

KUWAIT

AL-QABAS REPORTS AS-SADAT ASSASSINATION ATTEMPTS

LD141004 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0732 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Kuwait--The Kuwaiti paper AL-QABAS stated today that it had received "clandestine" leaflets reporting that the Egyptian president was exposed to two separate assassination attempts in Ismailia in which both of the perpetrators were killed. It added that the leaflets--which it received by post from an organization calling itself the Egyptian Revolutionary Organization--said that the first attempt took place at the rest house of the Egyptian president in Ismailia on 16 August of last year. It was attempted by a major from the Ismailia Security Service, called Mustafa ah-Shawi. It said that the Egyptian major opened fire on President as-Sadat while he was entering the resthouse, but missed. The presidential guard then opened fire on the assailant, killing him.

The paper added that the leaflets did not explain why the assassination attempt has not bee made public before. All that the leaflets said was that the Egyptian information media reported that the policeman killed himself because of psychological illness.

AL-QABAS said that the leaflets reported that the second "martyr" was Muhammad Jalal Zaghlul and that he carried out "daring" attempt to kill As-Sadat while the latter was walking in the gardens of the resthouse in Ismailia. It added that it did not receive any details about the second attempt.

ROK PRESIDENT CHOE VISITS KUWAIT 13-15 MAY

Report on Arrival

LD131526 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 1415 GMT 13 May 80 LD

[Text] Kuwait--President of South Korea Choe Kyu-ha arrived here today for a 3-day visit to Kuwait during his tour of a number of countries in the region. He was met at the airport by Amir of Kuwait Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah with whom he will hold talks connected with bilateral relations and the means of consolidating them and the situation in the Middle East region, in addition to other issues of mutual interest.

Talks With Amir

SK140330 Seoul HAPTONG in English 0256 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 14 (HAPTONG)--President Choe Kyu-ha, on the second day of his state visit to Saudi Arabia, today held a summit meeting with King Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad as-Sabah of Kuwait and exchanged views with him on a wide range of issues of mutual concern, a Blue House spokesman said today.

President Choe flew here from Saudi Arabia Tuesday on a three-day state visit on the second leg of his first official tour of the Middle East.

During the summit talk, which lasted for two hours, the two heads of state agreed to further strengthen the cooperative relations between their countries in the economic, political, social and cultural fields, the spokesman said.

At the meeting, President Choe Kyu-ha also clearly stated the Korean Government's readiness to recognize the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people and said the rights of the Palestinians, including their right of self-determination, should be respected. King as-Sabah, in turn, expressed his support for the Korean Government's efforts to maintain peace on the Korean peninsula and realize peaceful reunification of the fatherland, the spokesman said. President Choe asked the Arab leader to take positive steps to help South Korea establish friendly relations with other Arab nations with which Seoul has no diplomatic relations, the spokesman said.

De Facto Recognition of PLO

SK140833 Seoul HAPTONG in English 0829 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Kuwait, May 14 (HAPTONG)--Foreign Minister Pak Tong-chin said here Tuesday the government has all but formally recognized the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) as the sole representative of the Palestinian people. "There only remains the question of formality and of timing to be settled," the minister said in a press conference on his arrival here, accompanying President Choe Kyu-ha on his official tour of the Middle East.

"Although the actual word recognition has not been used in the Korea-Saudi joint communique, the statement could be construed as a de facto recognition of the PLO," he said.

The Korea-Saudi Arabia joint communique was issued at the end of a summit meeting between President Choe Kyu-ha and Saudi King Khalid on Tuesday.

When asked about the possibility of opening a PLO mission in Seoul, Minister Pak said such detailed issues have not yet been worked out. In the face of a growing international trend to recognize the PLO, the continued refusal of South Korea to do so would be to ignore the present international reality," Minister Pak added.

Statement on Visit

SK150831 Seoul HAPTONG in English 0824 GMT 15 May 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait, May 15 (HAPTONG)--The Kuwaiti Government pledged to give favorable consideration to the continuous supply of crude oil to South Korea.

According to a statement released here today by Senior Presidential Press Secretary So Ki-won at the conclusion of the state visit by President Choe Kyu-ha to Kuwait, South Korea and Kuwait agreed to further promote and explore "more possible areas of economic, scientific and technical co-operation to bring about mutually beneficial results." In particular, the two sides agreed to exchange survey missions for the promotion of scientific and technological researches, the statement said.

Reviewing the situation in the Middle East, the two heads of state shared the view that "the legitimate rights, including the right to self-determination, of the Palestinian people who are solely represented by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), should be respected." They further agreed that Israel should withdraw from the occupied Arab territories, the statement said.

On the question of the security in the Korean peninsula, President Choe Kyu-ha reiterated the South Korean stance to promote the national goal of unification with peaceful means.

The two heads of state jointly expressed their conviction on "the necessity of the continuous adoption of peaceful means for the realization of the unification of Korea on the basis of a constructive and positive dialogue." the statement added.

Departure for Home

LD150945 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 0740 GMT 15 May 80

[Excerpt] Kuwait--President of South Korea Choe Kyu-ha left Kuwait today for home at the end of his 2-day official visit to Kuwait.

OMAN

OFFICIAL DEPARTS FOR ISLAMABAD CONFERENCE 14 MAY

JN141230 Manama GULF NEWS AGENCY in Arabic 1204 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Muscat, 14 May--Omani Foreign Minister Under Secretary Yusuf al-'Alawi 'Abdallah left Muscat for Islamabad today to participate in the Islamic foreign ministers conference which will convene there tomorrow, Thursday.

Habib Chatti, secretary general of the Islamic Conference Organization, left with the Omani Foreign Ministry under secretary.

AS-SADAT SPEECH ON MAY CORRECTIVE REVOLUTION ANNIVERSARY

NC141050 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 0922 GMT 14 May 80

[Speech delivered by President Anwar as-Sadat in the People's Assembly in Cairo on the occasion of the May Corrective Revolution anniversary--live relay, in linkup with other Cairo transmitters]

[Text] In the name of God, brother and sister members of the People's Assembly: We are meeting today on a dear and distinguished occasion, which has become a landmark in Egypt and proved that when the time comes the People's Assembly, the representative of all the people, takes the initiative to correct the situation and to establish justice however the decision may be decisive and clear-cut.

I still remember the day when they informed me of the decisions the People's Assembly made on 14 May 1971. As you may know, I was busy at that time setting up the Cabinet. The centers of power thought that they could bring about a constitutional collapse in Egypt. Everything started to happen on Thursday evening, the People's Assembly meeting was on Friday, 14 May. Saturday, the Cabinet members were in their place and the People's Assembly had finished dealing with all its internal centers of power. The centers of powers, with their leaders, were preparing for trial, the people or the march did not stop for one minute. From Thursday evening until Saturday morning, everyone was in his place.

For this reason, I have accustomed myself to come to you annually on this day--unless there were things which prevented such a meeting because of tasks which you all appreciate and know. Once I came here on 14 May 1978 to recorrect the march. A popular referendum was held, and we corrected the march.

Before I go further, I want to remember on this occasion a dear friend who has left our world. However, faithfulness, which is the characteristic of Egypt and the people of Egypt makes it incumbent upon us to make our comment on this occasion. Allow me, before I speak to you on this, to ask you to stand for 1 minute of silence as a salute to the memory of Tito. [a minute of silence follows]

As I have said, this is how Egypt and the Egyptian people have always been. We must remember every friend and man who stood on the side of Egypt as you and our people have done before the whole world when we hosted the shah of Iran--expressing faithfulness, fraternity and a meaning that today's world may not understand. However, this meaning demonstrates the nature and nobility of the Egyptian people. The shah of Iran is a man who stood on the side of Egypt at a critical time, so we must stand on his side in his ordeal. By so doing we are not standing against the Iranian people but are demonstrating our faithfulness, chivalry and the values that we have taught, that we are teaching and those we will teach the world in the future, God willing. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, we will not forget that during the battle when the salient took place--when Israel concentrated more than 400 tanks with the aim of launching a psychological war against us to withdraw our forces from Sinai--on the first day of the 6 October war, I told the Soviet Union to send me a reserve of tanks. I told the Soviet ambassador in the first 6 hours that this was a battle of tanks and would be decided by the side which possessed more tanks. I told him to ask the Soviet Government to immediately begin sending tanks to me. As is the habit of the Soviet Union--I asked the Soviet ambassador 2 days before the battle [sentence as heard]. I also sent a message to the Soviet leaders asking them to define the Soviet Union's stand toward beginning a military battle. As usual, the Soviet Union never did answer. Their answer was silence, as when I asked for the tanks. They did not answer.

Then the salient took place [by the Israeli forces across the Suez Canal]. I was forced to send a message to Tito, who dissolved two armored brigades of his armed forces [applause]. He dissolved them and immediately sent me 140 tanks--full of gasoline, ammunition and all equipment. Kamal Hasan 'Ali was at that time the commander of the armor school. The crews were ready. The crews that were sent by Kamal received the tanks. The tanks were unloaded and immediately sent to the battlefield, supplied with gasoline, ammunition and all equipment. [applause] This is Tito. He did not ask a price as the Soviet Union had always done. He did not ask for a price or hesitate. He sent the tanks because of his nature as a struggler. We all know his role in World War II. He sent the tanks, ready to enter the battle, because I told him of the delicacy of the situation. Upon arrival the 140 tanks were offloaded at the port of Alexandria and immediately sent to the salient with Egyptian crews, with the gasoline, ammunition and full equipment provided by Yugoslavia. For this reason we remember Tito and we will always remember him out of faithfulness, because this is the nature of the Egyptian people. I pray to God that he will guide the friendly Yugoslav people to the success and along the path we wish them and which they want. Egypt will always be faithful to its friendship and chivalry--this is Egypt and the morals of the Egyptian people.

Going back to my talk, we are meeting today on the occasion of People's Assembly Day. The day 14 May also coincides with the passage of 10 years since I assumed office. Because of the meaning of these two occasions, I came to you today to greet you in the name of your people. I came to greet the People's Assembly on People's Assembly Day in the name of the people. [applause] I also came in order that we may review together the march over the past 10 years.

We have grown accustomed to starting any new development at the people's house and with the people's representatives. I believe that this year, this day, has a greater and more comprehensive meaning than merely being People's Assembly Day and merely marking the passage of 10 years since I assumed office. I believe this day will take on a deeper and greater significance if we are to review the march. Come and let us review it together.

Let us remember the decisions which were adopted during the past 10 years and during the 9 years since the May revolution. In the last 2 [as heard] months of 1970, that is in December 1970, a decision was issued abolishing custodianship as an approach to security and safety in the hearts of the people of Egypt after their confidence had been shaken and fear gripped them and after the law took a leave of absence. The decision abolishing custodianship was issued on 20 December 1970. This is the decision that was adopted the first year. Several decisions were adopted the next year. It was here that you adopted your 14 May decision, which is a distinguished landmark in our history.

History records that the late Wisawat came with members of the Chamber of Deputies and destroyed the chains so that the chamber could meet despite the will of the king and the British. Wisawat was the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies. Your action and decision on 14 May were much more serious. You created a precedent when the assembly met to dismiss its speaker and 16 members who represented the centers of power. In addition to your decision, 1971 witnessed the liquidation of the centers of power and the issuance of the Constitution. Note that I do not say the permanent Constitution, because it is naturally permanent. I believe we have sensed this in past years. It is natural to have a constitution and it is not necessary that we should add the word permanent to it, because it is something basic that the Constitution should not be interrupted, not even for one second. Never. [applause]

You adopted your decision on 14 May 1971. This year also witnessed the issuance of the Constitution, the supremacy of the law and the state of institutions.

In the third year, that is in 1972, my patience ran out after I had endured more than any person can endure. In July 1972, I issued my decision expelling 17,000 Soviet experts in 1 week. [applause] You know that the main reason for my decision was the fact that these experts wanted to become the guardians of Egypt's decisions. I asked them for the deterrent weapons which they had promised 'Abd an-Nasir. They believed that 'Abd an-Nasir had not told me about their promise before he died. They were surprised when I asked them to fulfill their promise to 'Abd an-Nasir. They said: We will give you the deterrent weapons, but they will only be used at the specific orders of Moscow. I lost control then. Two members of the centers of power and three Soviet leaders were with me. I lost control and told them in Moscow: Egypt's decisions will be the only decisions that will prevail in Egypt. [applause]

I also told them: I don't want your weapons if that is going to mean you will make the decisions for Egypt. This was in July 1972 when I issued the decision to expell 17,000 Soviet experts. This was the third year in 1972. The Ramadan-October battle took place during the fourth year in 1973. Before that, in 1971, 1972, and until the battle took place in 1973, you all followed the events. There were stupidities and despicable things domestically. In fact, what was more serious was the fact that sectarian sedition began at the beginning of 1972. I mention this now, but I will be going back to this subject after we review the march.

There were stupidities from the beginning to the end of 1972. The communists were saying: There is no battle, no movement, imperialism, liquidation--all the terms we were used to hearing. "In addition to this, the sectarian sedition began in 1972. Regrettably, this sedition has not yet ended. However, I will end it today--here in front of you and in the people's hearing. [applause]

The third year, in 1972, there was the decision to expel the Soviet experts. The fourth year, in 1973, there was the decision of the Ramadan-October battle with all its dimensions. The battle was not for Egypt alone, but for the whole Arab nation. When I review the Arab situation before you, I will return to this battle. In 1974 there was the economic open-door policy decision. The decision was taken after Egypt had suffered. I used to walk in the streets and find all manifestations of suffering on the street because of the difficult economic situation in which we lived and because of the economic policy we had adopted by establishing an iron curtain around us. We could not be self-sufficient like any big power that has everything. We are a small state. We cannot establish an iron curtain around us and be self-sufficient at home; not at all. The year 1974 was the beginning of the appearance of suffering. For this reason the economic open-door policy was adopted. In 1975, there was the reopening of the Suez Canal with all the political, international and economic implications inherent in that decision for us and for the good of the whole world. In 1976, there was the cancellation of the Soviet treaty. [applause]

It was absolutely impossible for me to continue with the Soviet treaty after the Soviets themselves had violated it and their intentions became evident. I thank God that I was right when I presented this decision to you, and your approval was unanimous, except for two votes. I thank God that I and you were right, especially after what is happening today in Afghanistan. This is the Soviet treaty which they used to bring in Taraki, then they killed him and removed him. Intizam [name as heard] succeeded him, and they killed him and removed him. Babrak came after him; and they are now thinking of killing him and removing him after they invaded the fraternal Muslim Afghan people.

The Soviet Union invaded Afghanistan, and they are still committing atrocities. This is all being undertaken in the name of the Afghan-Soviet treaty. You and I were right in taking the 1976 decision. In 1977, there was the peace initiative. This was in November 1977.

We were right, you and I in 1976, with regard to the decision in 1976 and the peace initiative in November 1977. In September 1978, when the Camp David [agreements were concluded] Israel for the first time recognized and put its signature to a document calling for full autonomy for the Palestinians. With the conclusion of a treaty between Egypt and Israel we reached a full agreement that both of us are now implementing, with all honesty and straightforwardness. Egypt has regained Sinai, its oil and everything and given Israel friendship, security and good neighborliness.

On 26 March 1979 we signed the Egyptian-Israeli treaty. Certain people, our Arab brothers, say it is a separate agreement. Now they are even saying that since Egypt has regained all its territory, rights, oil and everything, as well as opened its canal, what is the reason for Egypt to sit again [with Israel]. They are saying: Why doesn't Egypt announce that it will no longer sit and discuss with Israel and let others put forward solutions. If I had adopted this stand in 1977, we would have been in the same or an even worse situation. Now Egypt has regained 80 percent of the Sinai and begun a new stage of construction. Peace and friendship and Egypt's status has risen in the whole world. Now in the 10th year we are preparing to start a new battle that we would not have been able to start without peace.

We concluded the treaty with Israel as part of the Camp David agreement. The second part of the agreement provides for full autonomy for the Palestinians. With this, as I told you and I repeat, we have not and will not speak for the Palestinians. Never. Moreover, we will not allow Israel or the United States to speak for the Palestinians. We want to put the Palestinians at the beginning of a sound road by deterring the Israeli occupation through autonomy, ending the Israeli military rule and the Israeli civilian government. After that, the Palestianians will look after their own affairs. This is our stand. Is there any ambiguity or twist in this stand? I tell you we absolutely take no notice of them. We will continue our path, God willing. We have achieved the first part of the Camp David agreement in order to achieve the second part; that is, removing the [suffering] and ending the Israeli occupation so that the Palestinians will talk, with all their will, about their future state and what they want.

As I have told you, the decision made in 1979 to begin the battle of construction would not have been possible without peace. In the past year, the cornerstone for establishing peace was laid after the Camp David agreement was reached and the treaty signed. The parties to the treaty are implementing it with all honesty and honor. The second part of the Camp David agreement--autonomy for the Palestinians--remains to be achieved. However, as you heard me say when I returned from the United States, there are now no obstacles in our way to reconstruction after all the achievements in 1979, not only the signing of the treaty, but the return of 80 percent of the Sinai and normal circumstances that would enable us to reconstruct Egypt.

On this occasion in 1980, I come to you while I am about to issue the decision for 1980. We reviewed how in 1970 the sequestrations [were abolished]; in 1971 the centers of power [were liquidated] and the Constitution [was enacted]; in 1972 the Soviet experts [were expelled]; in 1973 the October battle; in 1974 the open door policy; in 1975 the opening of the Suez Canal; in 1976 the Soviet-Egyptian treaty was abrogated; in 1977 the initiative; in 1978 Camp David; in 1979 the treaty and the return of 80 percent of the Sinai and the return of normal life. Now on 15 May 1980 the martial laws shall be abolished. [applause]

The decision which I have lodged with the office of your honorable assembly abolishes martial law effective 2400 on 15 May, that is tomorrow, God willing, forever. [applause]

Brothers and sisters, I have got you accustomed to the fact that our decisions are final and based on the needs of our people and the phase we are going through. I have never gone back on a decision, and you are my witness. I closed the detention camps in 1971, and they remain closed to this day.

With the abolition of martial law, there will be no chance for anyone, whoever he may be, who comes after me, to restore detention camps unless he revives martial law, which can only be done with your permission as stipulated in the Constitution. [applause]

I have gotten you accustomed to the fact that our decisions are never the product of emotion, slogans or bargaining. Martial law was supposed to be abolished after the last withdrawal from the Sinai, which is natural. Some 20 percent of the Sinai will still be [occupied] until April 1982, that is 2 years from now. We were supposed to wait until that date. As I have told you, I have not used martial law at all, and you and our people are witness to this. [applause] What elements of martial law have been used since before the 23 July Revolution? Two things: the power to detain and censorship of the press. Add to this the measures which go with detention and so on.

I believe that you and the people will testify that since 1971 I have not used martial law in any way except in censorship--and that was for the sake of the battle. In 1974, February 1974 to be exact--that is 3 months after the October battle--I abolished press censorship. Thus everything related to martial law ended in February 1974. Before that, in 1971, the detention camps were abolished.

Today, before you, I abolish martial law, this being the decision of the 10th year, because the present phase is one of construction and stability, of prosperity.

Our aims will remain the same as I outlined to you before. They can be summed up in three targets: The building of peace, the building of democracy and the building of prosperity.

Today, with this decision of 1980, we complete a march that began 100 years ago. Our history must be linked together. The history of great nations must be interlinked. It would be detrimental for any nation to have its history dismembered for periods of time and for that nation not to know its past. Whoever is ignorant about his past loses his way in his present and loses his future.

For 100 years Egypt has been struggling for the completion of the construction. This was completed with my decision here with you today.

Egypt was the first state in this region, or in the Third World, to have a constitution. It was the first in the entire Third World, including Asia, Africa and Latin America, As we know, there were states with constitutions in Europe. However, in the 19th century Egypt was the first state to have a constitution. To be specific this happened in 1879, at the end of the rule of Khediv Isma'il--Egypt was the first state in the developing world to get a constitution, though not the first state altogether. We are not really just a developing state. No, we have our 7,000-year history. But because of the failures of those who came after Muhammad 'Ali and because of British occupation, our history was dismembered. In 1879 we had a constitution and the people were struggling.

Four revolutions broke out in 101 years. This is an indication that our people are a living people. We had a constitution in 1879 and a government and a constitution in 1881. We had a parliamentary government in 1881 during 'Urabi's revolution. We had a constitution and a national government. The British occupation took place in 1882. The British occupation abolished the constitution and the national government in 1883, and it began to impose its presence. What I am telling you is that we had a national government and a constitution 101 years ago. The people never remained silent in these 100 years. Four revolutions broke out. The 'Urabi revolution took place in 1882, the Sa'd Zaghlul revolution in 1919, the Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir revolution on 23 July 1952 and your revolution on 15 May 1971. [applause]

On this day, let us link our past with our present and let us greet five leaders in the history of Egypt. On this day when we are completing the building and beginning the march of stable and solid national rule after Egypt has reached its current position, let us remember five leaders: 'Urabi, Mustafa Kamil, Muhammad Farid, Sa'd Zaghlul and Jamal 'Abd an-Nasir. [applause] Greetings to their memory and greetings to the people of Egypt who never accepted remaining inactive for 100 years. Never.

As I have told you, the first constitution to be enforced in our area and the Third World--Africa, Asia and Latin America--was enforced in Egypt in 1879. Egypt had a national government and a constitution in 1881. The British occupation abolished the constitution and the national government in 1883. The debt fund and its long history began. The country was deprived of everything except for a semi-legislative assembly during the rule of Khedive Tawfiq and a semi-legislative assembly in 1914, which met only once. Sa'd Zaghlul was the deputy speaker of this semi-legislative assembly; that is to say that it was not a parliament and that there was no constitution. Great Britain imposed protection on Egypt in December 1914 and declared martial law. General Maxwell, who was the commander of the British forces in Egypt at the time, signed the declaration of the martial law. The British dismissed the Khedive 'Abbas Hilmi and appointed Sultan Husayn. All this happened late in 1914. The protection was announced in December 1914.

The first declaration of martial law was on 2 November 1914. Martial law remained in force in Egypt. Egypt remained without a constitution, parliament or national rule, because I cannot call the rule of Sultan Husayn Kamil or of Sultan Ahmad Fu'ad as national rule, for 10 full years after 1914. When you read our history, you will find out that the British dismissed 'Abbas Hilmi by a British decision and they appointed Sultan Husayn Kamil by a British decision. When Husayn Kamil died, they appointed Sultan Ahmad Fu'ad by a British decision. You will read in the decision: We appoint you under the conditions of the imposed protection, and you will confine yourself to these limits. This is written in our history.

This is where the magnificence of our meeting today lies. Martial law was imposed more than 70 years ago on 2 November 1914. The country, as I have told you, remained without a constitution and a parliament for 10 years after this date. The country was under foreign domination and British occupation until the incomplete independence declaration of 28 February. The leaders seized this declaration and began the struggle among themselves to forget the main concern of the people--the constitution, parliament and getting rid of the foreign domination. They forgot the 1919 principles and began the hateful party struggle, which continued until we rose on 23 July 1952 and put a final end to it.

From 2 November 1914 until I abolished it today in front of you, martial law has been in effect--except in certain periods which, in all, did not exceed 6 or 7 years during a total period of almost 70 years.

Why do I say that this has significance and meaning? This is because the process of national rule, which is based on stability, the Constitution, and the will of the people and the People's Assembly--which represents the people--has reached the peak in everything. It is true that we are facing problems. It is true that we have problems. However, we are now ready to tackle these problems. [applause] It is no longer a matter of imposed or unimposed martial law, a state of emergency, or suspended or unsuspended parliament.

After Fu'ad made himself king, following the 28 February statement, he gave Egypt the 1923 Constitution. Then King Fu'ad conducted three coups against the 1923 Constitution --King Fu'ad alone--and he did not want the constitution. He conducted three coups. In one of them, Sidqi changed the 1923 Constitution and created the 1930 Constitution instead. Later, they returned to the 1923 Constitution. All the leaders were under the command of the British and the king. One time they would plot with the king against the British and another time they would plot with the British against the king. Their sole aim was the desire to rule. All of this came to an end after the 23 July Revolution.

Today we say that all the negativisms of the 'Urabi revolution, in the imposition of British protection over Egypt, in the 1919 Revolution, and in the 23 July Revolution--all these negativisms have been corrected today through a national government and a genuine national march. [applause]

This is the importance and significance of our meeting today. Henceforth we will have no time for clamor--the clamor of the small ones, or the clamor of the rancorous, or the clamor of those who try to call themselves the elite, or the clamor of some of the Arabs around us. Not at all. We have corrected our history; we have established our state; we have established our national rule. The state is a state of institutions. The motto of the head of the state is: Right and might. This motto is manifested in official functions when the president of the republic dons a military uniform to indicate strength and wears the sash of the judiciary to indicate justice. [applause] In other words, the motto of the president of the republic is strong justice and strength based on justice. The motto of the state--as has been stated in the popular referendum--is science and faith. The motto of the president of the republic is right and might, in order to defend this people with all strength and justice. The motto of the state is science and faith.

In the recent referendum, we polled the people on the rebuilding of the state. The people approved the nine points in the referendum. Perhaps no one understood the reality or dimensions of what happened when the people approved these points. In this referendum, the people drew up the document on the establishment of the state and the limits of all the authorities. They did this by approving the nine points.

The first and most important point in the referendum was that constitutional legality is based on the 23 July and the 15 May revolutions. There were five specific points. These were: Egypt's Arab affiliation is a reality and fate; adherence to the nonaligned policy; ending party corruption and feudalism and the cleansing of political life; adherence to the ratio of 50 percent representation for workers and peasants in all organizations; and adherence to the supremacy of the law over all--rulers and ruled.

In the recent referendum on the nine points and on constitutional legality, the people voted in favor of the referendum by a majority of 11 million votes against 10,000 votes.

I must mention this figure, and it must be written down in your files, because this is the result of the referendum, 11 million votes. Thus it is the will of the people. Consequently, all the states must abide by the people's will. This is why I called your exalted assembly to meet today. We are not meeting alone but with the legislative, executive, judicial estates and representatives of the fourth estate--the councils of the boards of the newspapers. I called for this meeting, because we have laid strong and solid foundations.

At a meeting of the estates and at the beginning of a course of national rule, every country that built a great edifice began. Today I called the estates for a meeting so that all of us can be committed to our people and their aims. The significance of this is democratic conduct. Your exalted assembly approved of the recent constitutional amendments which will be submitted to the people, God willing. In these amendments we chose a multiparty system as an expression of sound democracy, besides the establishment of the fourth estate. Commendably, you have endorsed a proposal which a lady member had forwarded on the renewal of the president's mandate. [applause]

In the former constitution of 1971, I had inserted a provision promoted by my belief that two terms of office are sufficient for any president of the republic. [objections and applause are heard at this point] Believe me, as I tell you now, that I consider my meeting with you today and the completion of the final touches to the strong solid national government on bases which are not represented by slogans or outbidding but by well-entrenched bases--as the whole world testifies--I consider that I have achieved all the things I possibly can. Furthermore, I am proud of these things and of you and of this phase which we have reached. If you want to let me rest, I will be the happiest person. [applause and objections] Brothers, I know exactly how you feel, and I am not making this statement while entertaining any doubt at all. [applause]

I am confident of you, of your feelings and of our people's [will]. I want to open my heart and say that we can forever take pride in the achievement made today. We are not only beginning a strong national rule but also have corrected the history of 100 years, achieved equality, our people's will and, despite the Arab nation, we have projected the Arab nation as the sixth power in the world today. The world's wealth is going to the Arab nation. We have laid strong foundations for a state of firm institutions. What is more splendid than this is that the entire world now knows and testifies to Egypt.

Our march in the past 10 years was not easy, as I told you. For this reason, and as we are beginning a new stage, I want to put forth certain negative aspects so as to correct them, as we have become accustomed to, so that our march will continue its course strongly and firmly as always. I mentioned to you that after I took power in 1971, 1972 there were evil practices.

Among other things, we inherited in our country rotten and rotting traditions of party and political practices. What were these traditions? Anyone who wanted to engage in politics had only to abuse and defame those in government.

They got carried away by this drive to an horrendous extent. It got worse after 1919. We must be fair to Mustafa Kamil and Muhammad Farid. They were idealists and they were unselfish. Muhammad Farid, once one of Egypt's richest people, died in exile of poverty and illness. The Egyptian Government did not even move to bring his body home. A merchant from Al-Mansurah did. [applause] That was when the so-called "patriotic governments" were in power, the pashas and leaders. They did not bring Muhammad Farid home. We must realize the difference between one patriotic regime and another. Under our own patriotic regime, anyone who clings to his country will be clung to by his country. I have already said this. Accordingly, any Egyptian, whatever his position, who dies abroad, is brought home to be buried here in Egypt. [applause] This has been applied to everyone.

Recently, one of our Coptic sons died in San Francisco in a demonstration. His body was brought to Port Said by the government. The same thing applied to Princess Fawqiyah, eldest daughter of King Fu'ad by his wife Nazli--you probably do not know about her. She had left Egypt, and never returned to it. She died in Switzerland last year. When her will was opened, it was discovered that she wanted to be buried in Egypt. As soon as I was informed about this, the government transported her body and had her buried in her family's cemetery in Egypt. [applause]

The patriotic regime's attitude does not only apply to the dead, but also to the living. When the mother of an old politician who had been deprived of his citizenship--he was abroad and there was a death sentence against him as well as a decision withdrawing his citizenship because he cursed his own country; he was a prominent figure under the royalist and other regimes--when his mother sent me a letter saying that she was dying and wanted to see her son, her son came back and the death sentence against him was rescinded, and he was given his citizenship back. All this happened in a matter of seconds. He returned to his mother before she died. [applause]

Such is the patriotic regime. It does not discriminate between one Egyptian and another as long as they belong to their country.

Regrettably, after the rule that was falsely called the rule of independence--which came after 28 February--the state of ethics became worse. Democratic practice was nothing but quarrel between Sa'd and 'Adli and then between Sa'd and [word indistinct] to be followed by reconcilation. Sa'd did not live long. He died in 1927. After him the same thing continued. There were divisions. In 1937 An-Nuqrashi emerged. An-Nuqrashi is one of those men in our history who must be given their due respect. The reason he split from Al-Wafd Party was that he said: Let us not have corruption and favoritism. That is all. [applause] That was enough for him to be dismissed from Al-Wafd Party. After him Ahmad Mahir left and then Makram. Regrettably, such was the democratic practice.

Until recently, this hall has seen some who wanted to degrade democratic practices to such filth. We had to eradicate it completely. We have corrected all this and finished with it.

One thing remains. It remains for us to see the negative aspects so that we can correct them as we continue our march today, because outbidding is no longer valid. We have abolished martial law. We have recovered our territory. Egypt's name is now high up in the skies. We are the masters of our decisions and our fate. We no longer have time to waste on the old practices. Our new practice is building prosperity in Egypt for every male and female in Egypt and building a home for a happy family in Egypt--for every one of our sons and daughters, not only of this generation but of future generations.

This is the sound practice followed everywhere in the world. Do not accept any other practice. Reject the process of trading with slogans. We do not have time for this, so let us lay the bricks of the structure and elevate it.

I told you that there have been abuses in 1971 despite the fact that I abolished the custodianships. The communists considered the abolition of custodianship as disagreeable. The communists had penetrated all state organs during the last period of 'Abd an-Nasir's rule, particularly the influential organs: the press, culture, information and television. The communists dominated these fields. They also infiltrated the leadership of one organization--the Socialist Union. The abolition of custodianship worried them, naturally, because they intimidated and threatened the people with custodianship, through which they imposed their will and domination.

As a result of the decision I adopted on 20 December 1970, the communists began to heap abuses. All of you naturally remember what happened in the university in October 1971. The communist students occupied the hall of the Higher Council of Universities. The communists also tried to organize demonstrations and raised their known slogans of liquidationism and defeatism. I paid no attention to this. I want to tell you something. Haven't we completed the building? We have completed it in the most magnificent way, so that a democratic state was built. The only difference is that we are older. We have a 7,000-year history. Today, we can raise our heads and compare ourselves with Britain, the United States and all the democracies of the West--France and Germany. We can raise our heads high because we are a democracy like them and have a 7,000-year history.

What I want to tell you is that, despite all these abuses, the people and the broad base of our people were, praise be to God, vigilant, stable and responsive. This is how we were able to overcome all these stupidities.

After removing the centers of power in 1971, I accustomed you and our people to never say something and then back down from it. I closed the detention camps in 1971. They will never be reopened. This is despite the fact that all of them [the communists] deserved to be detained and placed before the people in order to tell them: I have detained these people for such and such a reason. I was then preparing for the battle and the people would have supported me. But I never did so. As I have accustomed you and our people, we will never go back on any decision. We will never go back on any decision except for the better and not the worst. I endured in 1971. The year 1971 ended and 1972 began. Admission to the universities reached its peak in January--admission began in October and it reached its peak in January. The abuses reached their peak in January.

With the beginning of 1972, I was surprised that not only the communists and the self-styled Masirites were active--saying what you know--but I was also faced with something new, called sectarian sedition. This sedition began in Alexandria. As I have told you, thanks to God and to the will of this people, I have been thanking God since the first moment I assumed office for the feeling of support I sense in my people and for every step I take. This support is the source of my strength and authority. I haven't resorted to martial law, detention or beating--although there were times when I should have done so. Why? It is because I was preparing for the battle which would determine the fate of this people. How could I let any tampering continue? It was because of my full confidence, as I am fully confident before you today, that by the grace of God and the will of this people, I always stand on solid ground.

I was surprised. Why sectarian sedition? Why, why? The sedition began, as I told you, in January 1972. Summer came and I adopted no special measures. Six months had passed. I told Mamduh [former Prime Minister Mamduh Salim]: Contact the church leaders and tell them this is shameful. He contacted them, but I saw that instead of calming down the situation was being escalated. Strange!

The summer of 1972 came. I was preoccupied with the battle, because it would determine Egypt's future. When we fought the battle in 1973 we did not reap its fruit and finish it until 1980. Now we have finished that and put it behind us. Now we are starting to build. This also takes time. Not only the battle. This is the postwar time. This is what concerns me; not sectarian sedition. I am not a fanatic and am well known for not being a fanatic. If the ruler were a fanatic, reactions might be possible. But I am not a fanatic.

When Patriarch Kyrillos died, I, against all those around me, called on the Patriarchate to present condolences, because I respected the man, may God have mercy on his soul. I will tell you, because it is high time that you, all my Copt sons in Egypt and all the Egyptian people know all the facts. I respected the man, may God have mercy on his soul, he died at the beginning of my rule. Against all the views of my top aides, I went to the Patriarchate to present my condolences. Our bishop sons who were all present to receive me there remember--I am saying this before the people and the whole world--that I gave them one word of advice: Keep your unity and the church's unity. They remember this. For this reason, I was surprised. It is strange: Egypt is not a country of sectarian sedition. We are not like Lebanon, or the Arab countries or even Syria. In Syria, there are Shi'ites, Sunnites, Maronites, Catholics and Orthodox, although its population is only 6 million. Throughout its history, Egypt has never been a country with sectarian discrimination. Why do we have this sectarian strife?

By the summer of 1972, I had noticed escalation [of the sectarian strife]. Good God, I was sending Mamduh Salim, who was holding contacts and enlightening [the parties] but there was deliberate escalation. I said to myself at the time this is not my battle. I was preparing for the battle of destiny in October without which we would not have been able to regain our self-confidence or build or have an existence as a people. I contacted [Mamduh Salim] and he said to leave this aside. But when I saw that sectarian sedition was rife, you remember that in this hall in the summer of 1972 I submitted to you the draft law of national unity. This national unity law has not been applied yet. Why? I had intended that the law [incomplete sentence as heard] I ask why the sectarian sedition? I say to those frenzied fanatics, both the Copts and the Muslims, shame on you. I drafted the national unity law, because the alternative would have been to open the jails. This was in Egypt's interests and not mine. To me the question was not the chair and rule, but Egypt.

I drafted the law so that it would deter [fanatic strife], but it did not. The law was drafted in the summer of 1972, the universities in October 1972 came out and started [incomplete sentence as heard] Developments had been continuing since the beginning of 1972. But in October 1972 escalation began. Why? In July 1972, as you recall, I expelled the Soviet experts. God willed that in October I asked about the armed forces when I found out that the war minister made a mistake which reached a point of treason. He left our positions on the Suez Canal exposed to the Israelis. I expelled him in October. In October 1972 I expelled the war minister at a time when I was unable to say so. Why? Because if Dayan heard me, he would have been able to cross to the West Bank. Egypt's position was vulnerable, because the war minister was a traitor indeed. His cowardice led him to treason.

I brought Ahmad Isma'il, may God have mercy on his soul, and said to him: Ahmad, build the defense line quickly and return to the sound defense line which was named Plan 200. Do this and tell me when you have done it. This happened in late October, the university days--at the peak of unrest caused by the communists: The demonstrations, the auditoriums and speeches--sectarian sedition was at the highest peak. Certain politicians and journalists asked me in those days. [sentence as heard] I told them, no, first I had to build the defense line. I told them the universities, sectarian sedition were nonsense that I could finish in no time. The first thing was the defense line.

Believe me, you and the people, that from late October I could not sleep for 45 days, not until Ahmad Isma'il--may God bless his soul--contacted me to say that all was fine, that the defense plan was fine. I told him: Well, Isma'il, here is another 20 million pounds. Take it and make preparations for the attack, in addition to the defense plan. Only then did I begin to divert my attention to sectarian sedition, communism and all these issues.

As far as the students were concerned, I did not open the detention camps. Actually, it was not just a question of the students. Since the war minister who was dismissed was a rightist, the communist left as well as the rightists, who also had dreams of playing a role, all joined hands. That was the reason I came to your assembly in December 1972 and from this rostrum spoke of the failure of both the left and the right. I said it in my speech here; you can look it up. In the same speech I also said: As of tonight, I will not allow this. That was the signal to [former Prime Minister] Mamduh to round up these people and send them to the Prosecution Department, not the detention camp, which he did. So, that was what happened as far as the right and left were concerned--and as far as the filth was concerned.

That left sectarian sedition and its escalation. Something happened. A foreign journalist, the correspondent of THE GUARDIAN, wrote three articles in December, saying, in short, that Egypt was finished with the expulsion of the Soviets in the summer--the Soviets were expelled in the summer before the December I am talking about. He wrote that with the expulsion of the Soviet experts President as-Sadat was left hanging in the air, that Egypt was finished and would never fight, and that the Egyptian regime was dying.

What is significant is that--and I say it for the truth--the views of this foreign correspondent, whose three articles were published by the British paper THE GUARDIAN--this is historically on record, because it was published--were shared by some Egyptian journalists. Some of these journalists did say these things. Some of them came to me once and were at a state of loss. They said all was finished. Regrettably, as I will tell you, they imagined that foreigners could shape our life. These things were written abroad. The author was THE GUARDIAN's correspondent in Cairo. He took it from the Egyptian journalists, regrettably. This is why in January I sent 120 journalists to the Information Department.

If this happens again--I am saying this for everyone to hear--if this happens again, or if history repeats itself, I will do the same thing. I do not regret what I did. I did not deprive them of their livelihood, nor did I send them to poultry departments. I sent them to the Information Department. It was exactly on the same principle that I asked you to pass a law on national unity and ethics and said that it was a shame for Egyptian journalists to be like that. Just as I said to the hallucinating Copts and Muslims in the summer that under the national unity law it was a shame [for them to behave that way]. I told the journalists in January 1973: Shame on you, journalists of Egypt.

In January 1973, 1 month after that correspondent's three articles were published in THE GUARDIAN to the effect that Egypt was finished, the New York TIMES, in the United States, took him on and he wrote three articles for it. I hope that the assembly will get copies of THE GUARDIAN for December 1972 and the New York TIMES for January 1973 so that they will be on the historical record available to you.

What was strange and regrettable was that all this was being said and published while sectarian sedition was being escalated. Strange indeed.

After Isma'il reassured me about defense, I went to Al-Azhar and visited the research institution and then went to the Patriarchate. At Al-Azhar, I spoke to our brothers, the 'Ulema, and said that Egypt was above everything else. I said the same thing at the Patriarchate.

When at the Patriarchate I asked what the problem was they said that the problem was one of churches. I said: How many churches do you want? They said 30 or 35. I said no, let it be 50, adding that anything built before then without a permit would be considered as licensed. I told this to Mamduh Salim, interior minister at the time, and he confirmed and carried it out, and that was that.

At the Patriarchate I said: Don't do this again. Why? Because its meaning was very bad. I meant that Egypt was in a crisis and that it would provide an opportunity for some of the new Christian leaders who wanted to turn the church into another governmental authority. To this I said no, sorry. This kind of thing happened in the medieval ages when the church was in conflict with the government. This never happened in our history.

Here I go back to Kyrillos, may God bless his soul, you know that I went and expressed my condolences and grieved more for Kyrillos than anyone else. Why?

In the 1960's, while Kyrillos was the patriarch, the Western states wanted to use religion in the course of their struggle with 'Abd an-Nasir. At this point, may I point out that you had heard me saying that there can be no politics in religion nor religion in politics. This equally applies to the Muslims and Christians. I repeat it again: There can be no politics in religion nor religion in politics. Why? They wanted to strike at 'Abd an-Nasir in the 1960's while Kyrillos was patriarch.

A plan was worked out. A foreign body participated in this plan and in its financing. This plan called for the sowing of religious sedition whereby the Copts would rise against their country. The purpose was to establish a Coptic state in Egypt with Asyut as its capital. All the Copts would move to this state, and they would form their own state within Egypt.

As I have already said, the basic objective of this plan was their desire to strike at 'Abd an-Nasir. The exploitation of religion in politics is a serious matter. Why? Because religion is connected with the feelings of all of us--and we are a religious people, whether Muslims or Copts. We are all religious people.

The plan existed. May God rest his soul, Kyrillos traveled to Ethiopia and learned about the plan. They had not told him about it before because they knew who Kyrillos was. He learned of the plan. When he learned about the plan, he told them: Return me to Egypt, to my country--and this despite the fact that from the religious aspect, as you know, Ethiopia's bishop was until very recently appointed in the same way as the bishops are appointed in Egypt.

When Kyrillos learned about the plan, do you know what he said? Before they could tell him the whole story, he said: Enough, return me to my country, Egypt. He returned to Egypt. He met with 'Abd an-Nasir and did not tell him a word. Never. He told 'Abd an-Nasir: We want churches. 'Abd an-Nasir told him: Of course, yes. That was all. He did not say anything. He told no one about this plan. This is because he came here and nipped the sedition in the bud. Patriarch Kyrillos crushed the sedition in the 1960's, because it was impossible for this process of setting up a state within a state to be completed. My Coptic sons know that such a process is impossible and unacceptable. Neither the Copts nor the Muslims approve of it. Never.

However, Kyrillos spoke to nobody about this plan. Never. He was not aware that 'Abd an-Nasir and I knew of this plan. What I am telling you was unknown to anybody in the state except 'Abd an-Nasir and myself. I am revealing this for the first time today. The man did not speak, but he nipped sedition in the bud.

The opposite happened in 1972. The escalation of sedition continued. When I asked how many churches they wanted, they answered 30 to 35. I said no, have 50 in addition to the old ones. This is no problem, but I told the church leaders then: Mind you do not return to sedition. I do not accept this, because the result would be saddening if, during times of difficulty in Egypt, church leaders would seek temporal leadership and authority. This is not permissible and is shameful. I believed that the issue would end. But it has been going on since 1972 and has never ended.

I went to Camp David in 1978. Since the time that a correspondent published three articles in THE GUARDIAN and three others in the New York TIMES stating that Egypt was finished, etc., some still get together and say: Let us hold a press conference and speak out. The complex of the foreigner and the possibility of shaking Egypt from the outside continue to exist. I gave 1978 as an example. Sedition continued from 1972 and was still going on when I left for Camp David in 1978. The new leaders of the church, as I said, were going ahead with sedition.

Well, I received certain reports, but I told myself: No. After talking with them during my visit to the Patriarchate I said: No, I cannot accept this: People should know their task.

At the time when it was asserted that Egypt was finished, there came the escalation of 1972. But in 1978--and this was before Camp David--it was asserted that there was no use. Begin said: Never! The settlements and the airports in the Sinai, etc., [will not be relinquished]. And you should bear in mind that I had carried out the initiative 1 year before, but [it was asserted that] there was no use. Therefore, everybody was saying that there was no use, that the initiative had come to an end and that since As-Sadat had carried out the initiative, which did not yield any results, then As-Sadat was finished.

On my way to Camp David, there occurred a sudden and strange escalation [of disturbances]. Demonstrations were being held at the United Nations while I was still in Camp David. The demonstrations were carried out by expatriate Copts who shouted slogans in favor of human rights near the United Nations because the Copts were deprived of human rights in Egypt.

As I told you, in the name of God, ever since I assumed power, and up to the present--and until I leave my post at your will and at the people's will--I will only choose to stand on firm ground. If I wasn't standing on firm ground, this would mean that the people were not behind me--so why should I remain?

They should have understood this as far back as 1972. Had they understood this, they would have made it easier for themselves and for some of our old politicians, the opportunists and the elitists--those same people who go to London and come out with curses against Egypt and against me and who write their invectives in the papers.

This is nonsense. This will never even shake me, because I have enough [power] from my people to place me above and beyond such behavior. What they imagined in 1978 was that Egypt was finished. Well, the expatriate Copts, therefore, demonstrated in front of the United Nations and the White House because the Copts in Egypt do not enjoy human rights. Not only that: Telegrams were also dispatched to President Carter. Why? Why should we do such a thing in Egypt? To what purpose and in whose interests?

At the time, before I set out, I said to myself: Alright, is that the case? Well, let the demonstrations go on and we'll see what happens. And then there was silence. When the Camp David agreements were concluded, sedition abated somewhat. Escalation cooled off, but not completely. This state of affairs went on until my recent trip this year.

This matter has reached its climax. The escalation has gone up. I determine in your presence and before my sons and daughters of the Coptic people and before my Muslim sons and daughters that those who were responsible for the 1972 sedition, the period which followed and up to this moment, are continuing their work. Regrettably, they are church leaders. Before my recent trip in April to meet with Carter, it was decided that my trip should take place on the Monday coinciding with the Spring Festival. As you know, the Sunday that precedes the Spring Festival is a feast--the feast of Passover. This time around, there was a bizarre escalation. They wanted to rush matters. In 1972 they mentioned the burning of Al-Khankah Church. As that time I sent people to check the facts and entrusted this assembly with this task. I ordered the People's Assembly to form a fact-finding committee--which they did. I asked that the committee, composed of Muslims and Copts, visit Al-Khankah Church, and should it transpire that a church was indeed burned down, then I would rebuild it at the state's expense. If no such thing happened, then just let me know. I already knew the facts. Still, I wanted a fact-finding mission, which included several Copts, to come to the People's Assembly so that the people would listen and recoil.

The committee came and reported that no church existed there, only some benches placed on land owned by the Patriarchate. These were the bygone methods they were using as a ruse to build churches, namely: They put down some benches, prayed on one or two occasions, and made a church out of the place by constructing the walls and erecting the church under the noses of the government. The study of the church's destruction is a very grave one, and it paved the way for erecting a church under the noses of the government. Why do you need to secretly erect a church? You have to deal with me and when you told me 30 or 35, I told you no, have 50, and whatever was put up secretly will get a permit. And so the matter was over.

What raised [the issue of] Al-Khankah Church? Telegrams from Canada, the United States and Australia, all speaking of the persecution of the Copts in Egypt. Then, and as I told you, I was scheduled to travel on Monday. Sunday was a holiday, and a great one at that, because it is Easter, the day of Christ's ascension into heaven.

In implementing the plan, a decision was made not to say the Easter prayers and not to receive government delegates. On what grounds was this decision made? On the grounds that the Copts are being persecuted in Egypt.

The escalation was in progress and scheduled to reach its climax when I would be in the United States. Leaflets would be distributed and demonstrations would be staged outside the White House and the UN building when I would be in the United States, exactly as was done in 1978 in connection with the Camp David agreements.

What were the reasons given for the decision on the prayers? To them, this is a serious matter. To us Muslims, no religious leader can ever cancel the celebration of a feast. However, this celebration is important for them. If it is canceled, then this is something horrible.

It turned out that they wanted to send a shockwave throughout the world. Therefore, 3 days before I traveled to the United States, and when I found out that the BBC and the Voice of America related the story and reported the decision, I told Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil: No, hold it, stop there. Wait until the whole plan is completed. Halt all talks. Dr Mustafa was engaged in a process of give and take. I told him: No, stop there. Why? Because of the details of this decision. I will describe this decision only after we will hear its details, so that we will all hand down our verdict on it and so that my sons and daughters of the Coptic people will hear it.

As I have said, the climax of the campaign was scheduled to reach the United States. Leaflets were to be circulated outside Blair House. A demonstration was to be staged in the street outside the guesthouse in which I would be staying. A demonstration was to be staged outside the White House. And a demonstration was to be staged outside the UN building. And this is exactly what happened. Half a page was to be reserved in the Washington POST. This also happened.

I knew of all these things before I left here. Therefore, I told the prime minister: No, wait because this is a long-term matter. It is part of a big plan. Since the Voice of America and the BBC have reported it, this is what is required. I know who had told these things to these radios. They wanted to intimidate us, so that I would run to Carter and tell him: No, by God, and so that I would defend myself. [laughter and applause]

The details of the decision which was made and which were conveyed by the leadership which made this decision to the Copts, were written in the leaflet which was circulated on the day of my arrival [in Washington]. Before we left, we knew of this decision and Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil told them this. We knew of this leaflet.

What does this leaflet say? It contains the things which were laid down by the officials who had made the decision not to pray in order to find a story to tell to the world against Egypt, against Anwar as-Sadat and against Islam. Supposedly, all these things were to reach their climax while I was there.

What does the leaflet say? It says: The fanatical Muslims are persecuting the Copts in Egypt. There were three, four or five, no, seven, points.

The Egyptian Copts are being killed and their churches are being burned down and bombed. This is Point 1. This is Point 1 of the details of the one who had made the decision not to pray and to escalate the matter and to try to exert pressure through the Voice of America, the BBC, Carter, the leaflets and all these things.

When did these things happen? In April. In your esteemed assembly here, do you remember when I came in January and said that, on your behalf, I greet the minister of the interior [applause]. I said that, on your behalf, I greet the minister of the interior. This is because on the Coptic holiday of 7 January, the state had a total clampdown on all the Coptic churches without having told this to the new leadership or to any person, because this responsibility stays with the state. I told you these things here in January 1970 [as heard]. Some 2 months later they wanted to cover up the decision which had been made and the scandal. What did they tell the Copts of Egypt and what did they tell the Christians of the world, whom they wanted to excite? They told them that the Copts in Egypt are being killed and their churches are being attacked. They did not say that in January all the Egyptian Coptic men and women, who are all my children, heard me thanking the minister of the interior before you and before the Egyptian people for having discharged his duty without having told anyone.

Point 2: The Christian girls are kidnaped, assaulted and forced to convert to Islam through barbaric methods. They also cited this point as a justification for the decision to ban the prayers. The minister of the interior came to you here, in this assembly. Whenever a boy falls in love with a girl and whenever they have an affair and elope, then this becomes a question of Islam versus Christianity? [applause] Well, this is how the story went. A boy was in love with a girl. Then they said, no, he kidnaped her. The minister of the interior brought them and he brought one of our brother Coptic assembly members present here. This member heard the story. Then they say that these girls are kidnaped, assaulted and forced to convert to Islam. They told these things to the Christians of the world, to President Carter and to the United Nations.

Point 3. The priests, students and workers are tortured and killed. Do you know the stories of Alexandria, Asyut and Al-Minya? These incidents have occurred and will occur, because they are scattered incidents. All these things can be solved and the state exists. The proof is that nobody asked the state to guard the Christian churches on 7 January. However, the state gave these churches this protection at nobody's request.

[Presumably Point 4:] The Copts are being subjected to accusations and to insult. They are also being accused of being infidels and the attack is taking place throughout the country.

What I am saying now is something that I told my sons of the Copt assembly members now sitting with us and listening to me. I am repeating it because the Coptic people are my people and I want them to listen to everything to know the truth. [applause] Those who are persecuted throughout Egypt. [sentence incomplete] There was a virtuous man of my Copt sons in Mit Abu al-Kawm. He asked me about the new Mit Abu al-Kawm. As you know, I am building the new Mit Abu al-Kawm. God is very generous; he sent me $1 million. What was I to do with this? At first, I thought of buying the land in Mit Abu al-Kawm and giving it to the people there. I wanted to do something for my town. I returned there and found the suburb where I was born, called Darb al-Gami. You may have heard me saying that the houses there hardly sheltered the people from the sun and were shanties below the living standard. I said I had better build new houses for everyone. Also, I thought that buying land there might be misunderstood. With $1 million I could buy only some of the land and this would be misunderstood. You know why? Because the majority of the land in Mit Abu al-Kawm is owned by Copts. This is true throughout the country. This is the town of the president of the republic.

I said to myself that since it might be misunderstood, I will do something else, and actually I was happy that I was building houses for everyone that are better than any that can be built these days in any city. Everyone is taking a house with solar energy, hot and cold water. It is like a kingdom in Mit Abu al-Kawm. [applause]

I want my Copt sons to hear this because of the virtuous man who asked me if the people were going to participate in the payment for the construction so that it would be theirs. I told him why participate, they owe nothing. I told him that the majority of the properties are owned by Copts. They work there. This is a normal matter and no one said anything against it. However, before the world, some said the Copts were exposed to humiliaton and this and that all over the country. [last four words in English]

Fourth, [As-Sadat corrects himself] fifth, in all these incidents, [they say] the Egyptian Government did not take any action against the killers and criminals. In all these incidents, the government did not take any measures and the interior minister did not come and speak with you, the prosecution did not go and investigate the story.

The next point said: We appeal to the conscience of the world to assist in stopping the massacres against 8 million Christians in Egypt. Egypt is their land, and they called upon the world conscience to take action. On the last one, it seems that they felt the lie was too big to be believed. They contradicted themselves. They said the government did not take any measures. However, the measures that the government took were insufficient. They said at first that the government is lax.

In Point 6, the Egyptian Government has never taken any action in this incident, this was in Point 6. In Point 8, they said that government measures were not enough.

In conclusion, they said: We ask for your moral assistance. Write to a senator and a congressman so that they will take action in Egypt--and naturally with President Carter. I tell you that this statement was printed in Egypt at orders from the [Coptic] leadership. We had a copy before I left for the United States. In order to dispel any doubts, I waited until I arrived there and found out that the statement had been circulated. I am saying this to be written down in the People's Assembly office as a document, because there will be other documents that I want to be written down there.

How do I describe these things that have happened? Why does someone with a complaint escalate matters and then attack his country and beg for aid from foreigners against his country? They set the Christians of the world against the Muslims in Egypt. Why do they do this? You know, by God, all the Christians of the world cannot move one stone from its place in Egypt. [applause] This is because the matter is in the hands of the Egyptian people. I describe these things by summing them in one word. Extortion.

I would like to relate to you the rest of their plan. These people held a meeting to consider inviting the holy synod to an urgent meeting to protest the issuance by the People's Assembly of Article 2 of the Constitution and to call on the Coptic voters to vote against the amendment of the Constitution. However, in view of the opposition of some from among my Coptic sons, it was decided to wait until after the president's speech on 14 May.

Work is now underway on drafting a resolution which says that the holy synod has received many questions from the Copts all over the republic about their stand toward the new constitutional amendments approved by the People's Assembly, particularly those touching on religious issues and that explicitly stipulate that the Islamic religion is the main source of legislation.

This draft is being prepared. It is worded like this, and it may be worded differently, but this is its essential meaning.

I am saying this with certainty, because we not only have what was done before in the United States and about which we spoke. No, recently, I acquainted my sons, the Coptic deputies, with the operation and let them participate in dealing with these matters. I kept them informed at first hand of the information being received by the party. I sent my sons, the Coptic deputies, two circulars issued by the National Democratic Party. These circulars were distributed only to the party Political Bureau and the Coptic deputies. I sent them these circulars so that they could avert matters before they got worse.

My sons, the Coptic deputies, played a role for which they are thanked in that they acted to clarify many points. They played a big role, even though according to the plan, as we shall see, they are accused of being the agents of the government.

I deposit with your assembly the two very confidential circulars, which were only sent to the Coptic deputies and the party Political Bureau in order not to make the situation worse. The Coptic deputies really did their duty.

The rest of the operation is about what? Emphasis on Article 2 of the Constitution--namely, that it conflicts with the universal principles of human rights and rejection of the explanatory note. The Coptic members of the People's Assembly do not represent the Copts if they depart from the holy synod's decisions. It is like this--an order. If they depart from the holy synod's decisions, they no longer represent the Copts, but the government has appointed them by rigging the elections.

The expatriate Copts have escalated their activity by:

--Staging protest marches in the religious towns of foreign states, particularly in front of the UN headquarters in New York and in front of the White House in Washington;

--Sending strongly worded telegrams to U.S. President Carter on the amendments [to the Egyptian Constitution]--as if the sectarian sedition was caused by these amendments and not by the escalation and the secular power, which the church in Egypt covets in addition to the religious power;

--Launching a personal campaign against President as-Sadat to the effect that he heads the Islamic groups in Egypt and is working to crush the Copts to win the Islamic street after his position has weakened as a result of his peace with Israel and his hosting of the shah of Iran. I, naturally, am in a bad situation and am shaken; I need the support of the Islamic street because I lost my popularity following my peace with Israel. A total of 11 million said yes and only 10,000 said no to this peace.

It was also said that I was leading the religious groups in Egypt.

The plan called for: Exposing the Egyptian Government to American public opinion as it was defending the rights of the Arabs of Palestine against their own will while intentionally and willfully ignoring the suffering of the Copts in Egypt; contacting the world church organizations--the Vatican, the World Council of Churches, the American Council of Churches and the Christian religious leaderships--in order to point out to them that the Copts were being coerced to accept the Islamic law as the only source of Egyptian legislation; the formation of a committee of expatriates and some members of the foreign and Arab churches to look into the situation of the Egyptian Copts under the wave of Islamic fanaticism.

Concerning the Arab churches, in 1972 a leader of the Palestinian resistance in Beirut--an important man--was here. As you know, the PLO first clashed with the Phalangists who are the Maronite Christians in Lebanon. The Phalangists were equipping an army and enlisted volunteers to fight, supplying them with arms from Israel. This Palestinian leader came to me in 1972 and told me: We captured five Phalangists; we took them for questioning to the organization's headquarters and three of them were Egyptian Christians working with the Phalangists against the Palestinian resistance.

I am recalling this in view of the story about the Arab churches, not only the World Council of Churches and the Vatican, No, certain Arab churches, including the Maronite church. I asked him if he was certain. He said: I am sure and I will send them to you. Mamouh Salim was the interior minister then. I asked Salim to inform the church leaders that Egyptian Copts were fighting alongside the Maronites in Lebanon and that it was a disgrace.

The plan also called for convening a world conference of Coptic expatriates as soon as possible--which would be backed by a coordinated propaganda campaign in various church and world information media--to discuss the condition of the Copts in Egypt in the light of the amendment of the Constitution to the effect that Islamic law shall be the sole source for legislation.

The list of members of the preparatory committee for this conference is here before me.

We observe from this that the plan is still continuing while I am standing here. Although it was secret, it did not require much intelligence to come to a conclusion. The campaign concentrated on Article 2 of the Constitution. It provided an opportunity to unite the Christians--apart from the orthodox in Egypt--including the Latins, that is the Catholics, Protestants, bringing together all other communities alongside the Copts in the name of Christianity in an appeal to the Vatican and the World Council of Churches; all to distort the reputation of Egypt. They tried to prove that--by stipulating in Article 2 of the Constitution that the Islamic law shall be the main source of legislation--Egypt was fanatic, and so forth. This is continuing to this very day.

The last thing I told my sons, the Coptic deputies, was that an envoy went to the Vatican, carrying photographs of a demonstration staged in Asyut to show what was being done against the Copts in Egypt, with the intent to defame Egypt abroad.

Article 2 of the Constitution says that the Islamic law shall be the main source. In your memorandum you said the main source. There might be other sources. The minister of justice, as far as I know, had asked those concerned for a bill on the personal status for non-Muslims. Nobody can impose Islam upon anyone. Everyone is free to choose his creed. Why all this uproar? Are the Council of Churches, the Vatican, Carter, the American Council of Churches or the United Nations closer to the Egyptian Copts than their brothers, the Muslims of Egypt? What was intended was to use Christianity so as to threaten and distort the image of Islam.

Well, if Article 2 is the reason of all this, then I tell my Coptic sons, who are hearing me now, and I tell you and our people that since I assumed power in Egypt, I have been ruling as a Muslim president of an Islamic state. [applause]

Egypt is an Islamic state, and not an ordinary Islamic state at that. It occupies a leading position in the Islamic world, a pioneering position.

Al-Azhar has protected Islam for 1,000 years. The Muslims of the world will testify to this. [applause] The sedition-mongers should have realized that the real security for Christianity in Egypt is Islam itself. [applause] When I speak of myself as a Muslim president of an Islamic state, it does not at all mean that I do not give the Christian his rights before the Muslim. However, this is an Islamic state.

Patriarch Benjamin once sent all the Christians to help the Arab armies of 'Amr ibn al-'As. Father Benjamin sent the Copts of Egypt to assist 'Amr ibn al-'As, so that the Byzantine religious persecution of the Egyptian Copts could come to an end. [applause]

I say that I am a Muslim president of an Islamic state and I know my responsibility. The Copts and Jews of Egypt are just as much my responsibility as the Muslims, and this is stipulated in the Koran. [applause] This is why I say that Islam is the best security.

What was the Almighty God's command to us and to me as a Muslim guardian of an Islamic state in which Christians live together with the Muslims? What was God's command to me? He said: Say we believe in God and in what has been revealed to us and what was revealed to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob and the tribes, and what was given in the books to Moses, Jesus and the prophets from their lord: We make no distinction between one and the other, and to God we bow our will in Islam. [Islamic verse]

That was God's command to us, and to me as the guardian in an Islamic state, that I should believe in what was revealed to Abraham, Isma'il, Isaac, Jacob and the tribes, and in what was given in the books to Moses, Jesus and the Prophets, and that I should make no distinction between one and the other.

I hope this will be understood, because it is a clear, divine command.

Not only that. Why is Islam the best guarantee for them as Copts and Christians? First of all, does the word Copt apply only to the Orthodox? No. The Copts are Egypt's origin. After the Islamic conquest, many Muslim Copts joined the other Arab Muslims. Some remained Christian. A Copt means an Egyptian, not all Copts are Orthodox. No, if we go back to the origin, we will see that many Coptic families adopted Islam long ago, at the time of the conquest.

This is why this homeland belongs to us all, before Christianity and before Islam.

Almighty God clearly ordered us to believe in Him and in what was given in the books to Moses, Jesus and the prophets and that we should make no distinction between one and the other.

What is the second guarantee? What did God Almighty teach us and teach me as a Muslim president of an Islamic state in which Muslims and Christians live?

When God Almighty wanted to tell us the story of Mary, he said: Behold the angels said: O Mary, God hath chosen thee and purified thee, chosen thee above the women of all nations. [Koranic verse]

God Almighty chose Mary and purified her and--notice the stress-chose her above the women of all nations. This is to say that she will be the purest woman on earth until the day of resurrection. This is Islam's opinion of the Virgin Mary. Is this no guarantee?

In the Koran, God Almighty also told us about Christ. We heard God's order to us to believe in the relevation given to the prophets, Moses and Christ. When telling us about Christ, God says: Then will God say: O Jesus, the son of Mary, recount my favor to thee and thy mother. Behold, I strengthened thee with the Holy Spirit, so that thou didst speak to the people in childhood and in maturity. Behold, I taught thee the book and wisdom, the law and the Gospel. And behold thou makest out of clay, as if it were the figure of a bird, by my leave, and thou breathest into it, and it becometh a bird, by my leave, and thou healest those born blind, and the lepers, by my leave. And behold, thou bringest forth the dead by my leave.

God Almighty told us about the miracles of Christ. He makes out clay, as if it were the figure of a bird, and breathes into it to become a bird, by God's leave. He also heals those born blind and the lepers and brings forth the dead. This is what my God ordered me to learn about Christ in my capacity as a Muslim ruler governing a Muslim state inhabited by Muslims and Christians. God Almighty told us about the Last Supper. In the Koran, God Almighty also told us about the conversation between him and Christ, peace be with him: And behold, God will say, O Jesus, the son of Mary, didst thou say unto men, worship me and my mother as gods in derogation of God? He will say: Glory to thee. Never could I say what I had no right to say. Had I said such a thing, thoust would indeed have known it. Thoust knowest what is in my heart, though I know not what is in thine. For thou knowest in full all that is hidden.

These are the orders of our God Almighty to us in the Koran: Mary is the purest woman of all nations until the day of resurrection. Christ makes out of clay, if it were the figure of a bird, to become a bird by God's leave. He also heals those born blind and the lepers, by God's leave, and he brings forth the dead, by God's leave. During the Last Supper, when the disciples asked Jesus to bring them a table from heaven, he told them: Fear God. He then implored his lord to send them a table from heaven. Our God Almighty sent the table. God said: I will send it down unto you, but if any of you after that resisteth faith, I will punish him with a penalty such as I have not inflicted on anyone among all the peoples. In other words, he wanted them to learn a lesson.

God Almighty told us about the main features of Christianity in the Koran. This is an Islam that is not the Islam of Khomeyni. Khomeyni's revolution is not an Islamic revolution. Never, not from near nor far.

Egypt's Islamic responsibility comes when I say that Egypt is not only an Islamic state but an Islamic state with unique leading Islamic responsibilities in the Islamic world. All the Muslim rulers except Egypt kept silent in the face of Khomeyni. The killings taking place in Iran are not of Islam; revenge is not of Islam; disfiguring the head is not of Islam. When one of the sons of Adam killed his brother and did not know what to do with the body, God sent him a craven to show him how to hide the shame of his brother. He said: Woe is me, for I don't know how to hide the shame of my brother. Khomeyni is exhibiting the bodies of the Americans in Iran. What Khomeyni is doing is neither Islam nor an Islamic revolution. Is a chaotic revolution and a Khomeyni revolution. It is a revolution of hatred and revenge. Islam has nothing to do with all this.

We have the Koran, including God's teachings, and the story of the prophet. We also have the story of the commanders of the faithful after the prophet. When I talk about 'Umar ibn al-Khattab, I want to tell you that as a Muslim ruler of a Muslim state I follow the steps of 'Umar ibn al-Khattab. [applause]

When 'Umar ibn al-Khattab went to take over Jerusalem from Patriarch Sofronios and the time for prayer came while he was in the Church of the Holy Sepulcher, he was about to pray in the church. However, he went out and prayed where now stands the Mosque of 'Umar, which is only 20 meters from the Church of the Sepulcher. He said: I fear to pray in the Church of the Sepulcher lest the Muslims will come later and claim that 'Umar prayed here and take the church as their mosque.

That was the Muslim ruler, 'Umar ibn al-Khattab, of an Islamic state. He learned that one of his agents in Damascus demolished a church and built a mosque in its place. He sent a message to him saying: When you receive my letter, destroy the mosque and rebuild the church as it was, return as we have dismissed you. [applause]

On his way to (Al-ya'), 'Umar ibn al-Khattab saw a building standing in deep sand. Asking about the building, he was told that it was a Jewish temple. He used his cloak to remove the sand and the army followed suit to uncover the temple so that the Jews, people of the book, could worship in it, as he was a Muslim ruler of a Muslim state inhabited by Jews and Christians. I will follow his footsteps and ask God to grant me success.

Therefore, I issued my instructions to the 10 Ramadan City that a church should be built near the mosque, as in my view the distance between the mosque and the church was 20 meters, as set out by 'Umar. Just as the state was building the mosque it would build the church in the 10 Ramadan City. By this decision I wanted to tell the sedition-mongers that the era of oppression was over, that the time of attempting to seek the help of the foreigner against your country was gone forever. The state does not differentiate between its citizens. The Constitution, in Article 46, provides freedom of creed. When I ordered the construction of a church near the mosque in 10 Ramadan City, I meant this and I wanted to say that the question was not one of oppression but that this was an ordinary matter in new cities where the state will build a mosque and a church nearby. There might not be many Christians or none at all in that place, but the significance is that I wanted to obliterate the past and all its complexes.

The time for noon prayers came while I was in the Patriarchate. I prayed in the Patriarchate. My behavior was similar to that regarding the 10 Ramadan City--namely, that the era of complexes has gone forever. The land, sky, people of Egypt are one. Each of us will worship his God according to his own creed. As a Muslim ruler of an Islamic state inhabited by Christians, I prayed in the Christian Patriarchate. I find no embarrassment in that. However, it appears that these matters were understood to be a position of weakness on my part. For this reason it was thought that blackmail, telegrams to Washington, Australia and Canada and the demonstrations and leaflets could have an effect. No. Let us leave aside the policy of blackmail and turn to a new concept.

As I told you, sectarian sedition continues. Regrettably, it is not over. The contents of the resolution you have just heard were published. Nobody can deny that the printed statements, which were published in the United States, were not issued by the officials of the church here. They issued the resolution thoughtlessly. They say that all they did was to translate it into English and send it out, but they say this to my Coptic sons in Egypt. The truth is something else. Wrong things were deliberately told to my Coptic sons. For instance, it was said that I promised to build a church in Al-Khankah but failed to fulfill my promise.

I want my sons the Copts, the people of Egypt and world Christians to hear that I did not make any promises. On the contrary; the Al-Khankah Church was a source of provocation and escalation. When I was asked in the Patriarchate to allow the building of this church, I said not this one; never. I will not allow this to be included among the 50 churches to be built.

Of the 50 churches that will be built or any other number of churches that will be built in the future, I will not allow any church to be built in Al-Khankah. Why? Because it was used for defamation deliberately and groundlessly and with ill intent. My Coptic sons are listening to me. I have not promised to build the Al-Khankah Church. If a church had burned down in Al-Khankah, I would have it rebuilt after a factfinding report; I would open it myself, just as 'Umar ibn al-Khattab did when he pulled down a mosque built on the site of a church and reconstructed the church.

My Coptic sons were told that I was asked for a meeting and that I refused. We have here in this assembly a coptic brother and assembly member who was a colleague of mine. One week before these details were printed in a defamatory leaflet, and 10 days before I left [for the United States], the Copts were told that I had been asked for a meeting and that I had refused for a year. Why just 10 days before my departure? Your colleague assembly member, who is here now, called for me. There had been a problem, he wrote me about it and left the sealed letter for me without meeting with me. The letter was sent to me that evening. There had been a problem with a girls convent in An-Natrun Wadi, in the Western Desert. When this colleague of yours who, as I told you, was my classmate and is the secretary of the new church leadership--I know this and he is my friend--when he came and left [a letter]--that this was a problem for the new church leadership only 10 days before I departed, this member contacted the interior minister, who in turn made contacts and settled [the matter]. This happened at night, the letter arrived at night and by midnight everything was settled at the orders of the interior minister. The interior minister made personal contacts. My friend and People's Assembly member called on me and wrote a thank-you letter. He said that the complaint was settled that same night and that it had been made at the request of the new church leadership. My Coptic sons must know the facts. A problem reached me at 2000 and was solved before midnight; a People's assembly member and a colleague among you can testify to this. The sedition is continuing. However, I ask you to form a parliamentary committee, as I have announced. This committee will include two Muslim members and two members of your brother Copts. It will be chaired by one of the People's Assembly secretaries.

I want to make the following comment on this sedition: In my capacity as a Muslim ruler of a Muslim state, I assume religious and temporal responsibilities. I am responsible for protecting religion and secular politics for all the people, Muslims and Copts. Consequently, I am shouldering my responsibility in the presence of Almighty God. I derive help from God Almighty and from the confidence of my people, Copts and Muslims alike. My responsibility makes it incumbent on me to care for the Christians exactly as I care for the Muslims. And let us not run after the Christians of other sects to try to form a front called the Christian front so that the Christians of the outside world will respond to it. This process is part of the plan.

The second point is that I want it to be understood and well established that the president of the republic alone is responsible for every individual in the Egyptian nation, no matter his creed or belief. I want it also to be well established that the Copts are an indivisible part of both our Egyptian nation and of Egypt's national history. Under no circumstances whatsoever could they be--as certain religious leaders would have it--a foreign community or subject to a religious clerical command. The president of the republic is responsible for the religious and secular aspects. The commands in the church and the mosque can guide the people in affairs of religion.

As for politics, I will elucidate the matter by saying that its place is in the parties, the People's Assembly, the local councils. I will never allow any political activities to take place from the pulpit of the church or the mosque. [applause] When I say this, I do not want any of my Coptic sons to think that this is said to detract from the abilities of the church's clergymen; no.

I read the history of their church when I was the secretary of the Islamic conference. You might not know this, but the Church of Alexandria has an extensive history which precedes the Church of Rome, the Vatican. At a certain time, this church had its own theories on theology as well as its status and power in the entire Orient. As I said, the Alexandria Church preceded the Church of Rome. The Church of Rome did not exist when the Alexandria Church existed. In the history of the Alexandria Church I read, mixing politics with religion was utterly rejected. At no time was the Coptic Church turned into a closed priesthood system in which the clergy had the first and last word among the Coptic people. As testimony to this, I cite the tradition of the church of St. Mark, which, in its church decrees as well as its applications and its prayer ceremonies, says that the Coptic people possess all the powers in the Coptic Church. As an example, the election of the patriarchs and episcopals is an act of popular will--even prayers are an act of popular will.

I want to say that when a man of religion turns himself into a political advocate, he strips himself of his spiritual mission. As I tell you now: Political activities should take place in the parties and the popular councils, while religious activities should be held in places of worship and religious institutions.

As for my Muslim sons, I want to say that Islam does not have religious authority except as a good example, as a call for charity and for renouncing evil. Islam does not have religious authority except for advocating good deeds and renouncing evil. It also calls for wisdom and for setting a good example.

I also want to say to my Coptic and Muslim sons: Religion should not be mixed with politics, and vice versa. I am well aware that Islam combines religion and the state. Still, I say: no politics should be mixed with religion, and no religion should be mixed with politics. This is very clear. What I mean is that there should be no hiding behind religion or trading with it for the purpose of achieving political ends, party aspirations or worldwide greed, irrespective of their nature and of whether this refers to Islam, Christianity or Judaism--and we recognize all of these religions.

When I said that there should be no politics in religion and no religion in politics, I had in mind certain devious people among the Muslim groups because the Islamic groups also include benevolent [as heard] people. However, there are certain devious groups who have started assailing this kind of talk. I say no, and I insist: Religion should not be exploited for secular purposes; never. Neither should religion be exploited for political aspirations; never.

It is being said that As-Sadat is leading the religious groups. By God, I pray to God that one day I will relieve myself of my responsibilities and be able to have more spare time. Then, I will retire from politics, because I can neither mix religion with politics nor politics with religion. The day God--praise be to his name--enables me to carry out religious activities, I will retire from politics once and for all and devote myself to my religious activities. However, you and our people and my Coptic sons remember--as does the whole world--that scores of years ago while 'Abd an-Nasir was still alive, I recounted that, during my meeting with the late Shaykh Hasan al-Banna--I was 22 years old at the time and in the process of restablishing the Liberal Officers [Movement] when I met with Hasan al-Banna--you will remember what I said here at the assembly; it was published in AL-JUMHURIYAH 25 years ago--when 'Abd an-Nasir and the leaders of the Muslim brotherhood were still alive, I said that Al-Banna had tried to apply the organization of the liberal officers to the Muslim brotherhood. I refused this, as did 'Abd an-Nasir later on, because we were working for the sake of Egypt and not for any faction, or party, or personal aspiration, or any group; in short, we were working only for the sake of our national aim: Egypt.

This remains my opinion to this day. As long as I am in politics, I will work for Egypt. When I devote myself to religion, I will give up politics and not mix religion with politics or politics with religion. I say there should be no religion in politics and no politics in religion, although Islam combines religion and state. But there is a big difference between Islam's being a religion and state and utilizing Islam for attacking the state. Islam does not say this.

My instructions to the interior minister, effective tomorrow, are: The activity of all societies and organizations which spread sectarianism, religious fanaticism, and radical [religious] preaching will be suspended. Societies will be limited to those registered with the Social Affairs Ministry. This shall be applied particularly in the educational institutions and schools. The national unity law will be applied to everyone, whoever he may be. [applause]

I have something to say to my Coptic and Muslim sons. I say to my Coptic and Christian sons that it is not an expression of religious freedom in Christianity for a few people to intentionally, in good faith or in bad faith--and bad faith existed--cause sectarian crises and create reasons for religious seditions from time to time. I said that this had been happening until today, and it must end as of today.

At a certain stage I was about to take a big decision after there was proof of bad intentions. An attempt was made to get the aid of the Christians of the world. They tried to get the help of the Christians in Egypt except for the Orthodox Copts, who are our partners and sons. They tried to get the aid of other communities to cause sedition between Christians and Muslims, as was the case centuries ago. It was a big decision, and I should have taken it. But, you will not believe me when I tell you who prevented me from taking this decision and made me postpone taking it until I came and spoke to you and gave [you] a final chance. What prevented me was a letter I received from a girl in medical college. I was in the midst of an emotional state because of this horrible sedition. The unity of Egypt was at stake. By God, I could not allow the unity of Egypt to be affected by the United States, Russia or the entire world, in the past, the United States, Russia or any power could not impose anything on us. [applause]

I was about to take this big decision, and would have, had it not been for a letter I received from a Coptic girl in the medical college.

You know how this girl defeated me? She is one of my children--the people of Egypt. She is in medical college, and she would not write what she did not believe in. She said: Please, you are our father; if there are mistakes, you must deal with them. At the end of her letter she said: I can do nothing for you except pray to Almighty God to take from my life and add to yours. [applause]

I immediately calmed down. I said: These are indeed my sons, the Copts. They realize what I am doing and they know where I stand and what we are all working for. If need be, and if this action were to be taken for her sake alone, well, I will give [you] a new chance in lieu of making the major decision. [applause]

I want to talk a great deal about so many things. [laughter] However, the time has passed. Nevertheless, I find myself compelled to say that, as you have heard me say before, God be praised. This is because today we have finally completed and crowned the last decade's procession of democracy. The national government is well established; even the entire world cannot shake it. This is because this government is supported by God Almighty and by this people's will. This is final.

However, in addition to sectarian sedition, there is another phenomenon, and I am evoking the state's powers to deal with it. We are beginning national rule and initiating the honorable and real beginning of a people who are building their country just as the big states did. Furthermore, and God willing, I hope that prior to the conclusion of this century, we will be a great state.

Some people have also tried to arouse the foreigners against Egypt. They still think that this method pays off. As I have said, some people leave here and go to London to hurl abuse at Egypt. Nevertheless, and while they are here, these people enjoy their freedom. Even when they return, they will also enjoy their freedom.

When we spoke of the law of ethics, they said: No, why; this is a matter of freedom of opinion. The law of ethics has nothing to do with the freedom of opinion. This law is only aimed at shamelessness. The matter is so simple [laughter]; we want no shamelessness. [laughter]

It is enough that such people enjoy all their rights. Therefore, by God, why do they hurl abuse at their country, Egypt? Why is an attempt being made to distort Egypt? Why is an attempt being made to distort Egypt's image abroad. Furthermore, those who had caused the sectarian sedition also got involved in this attempt and they are still involved in it. They think that if a writer who lives abroad writes an article or edits a magazine financed by Al-Qadhdhafi or by somebody else, we will protest or be affected. No.

I tell everybody that the edifice has been erected through the Egyptian people's will, through the Egyptian people's strength and through the Egyptian people's vigilance.

All these people have backward minds. They still work with the pre 23 July or post 23 July mentality, which we completely did away with on 15 May.

Construction is progressing and expanding. One thing has happened which I also want to bring to your attention. Some elements, as you know, are agents of the Soviet Union or of reaction. These elements tried to come here, in 1978.

They talk about the independence of the judiciary and about men of justice not being weakened by any wish of fear. Then, a very small minority, I told you during our meeting 2 years ago in the Judges Club that the only noble highness left in Egypt was that of justice. [sentence as heard] In the old days this title was given to the pashas and the like. No, the only noble highness left in Egypt is justice. [applause]

Without anyone telling them anything, they [presumably the judges] took the initiative among themselves and rectified things. They wrote: Those who pass judgement on people have faith in the independence of justice and keep it out of politics because of respect for the immunity and impartiality of the judiciary and its sacred mission.

The list of people who upheld this overwhelmingly won over all the others. So, the judiciary did rectify the situation.

I would like to add a few words here before the assembly. This is history and must be recorded here. I want to say that our judiciary is a source of pride for us all, not only for Egypt but also for the entire Arab nation. Throughout all generations and throughout history, our judiciary has been a source of pride for us and will continue to be so. As an acknowledgement, the president of the republic wore the sash of justice on his chest as an honor.

I just want to say that the judicial family looks after its sons, itself from within. Whoever wants to be in politics should realize that the place for politics is in the parties, the elected councils, the People's Assembly and everywhere else. The judiciary, however, has its own sanctity, and it is neutral and upholds justice in the state. [applause] This is why I would like it to be clear in the judiciary, as it is clear in the armed forces, that two bodies do not engage in politics: the judiciary and the armed forces. Otherwise, the balance would be disturbed. This is why I ask the judicial family to take care of what has happened itself now that it has rectified all the situations within itself. The only reason for my concern and for my speaking out is that I do not want anyone to try to exploit Egypt's judiciary--which occupies the most sacred position--with radios repeating the words of the saboteurs.

I have spoken about democracy and I want to talk about peace and prosperity, but it appears that I have no time left. [laughter and cheers] I will be brief because [sentence incomplete]. All that was about the building of democracy. We completed it today and rectified a 100-year history and the course of three revolutions. We laid flowers and blessings on the graves of all our martyrs who struggled and died in 1919, and before that during the British occupation in various battle, and after that in 1937 and 1946. We lay flowers today on the graves of the leaders as we achieve nationalist rule in its most magnificent form--even in the most deep-rooted states in the world.

The building of peace is fundamentally related to our attitude toward Israel and to the Arab position. As I broach the Arab position, I remind you that I submitted to you a paper on dialogue with the Arabs. This paper deals with how we should tackle the Arab position. Until you make your relevant decision, I call your attention to only one thing. I want to take a measure which I have actually decided upon. However, I want to submit to you the details of this measure. These details are: The Arabs began by severing relations with us immediately following the announcement of the result of the referendum during which 11 million of the people said yes to the treaty [with Israel]. The Arabs answered all these millions by breaking off diplomatic relations.

He told the reactionaries: Stay where you are. Those self-styled Nasirites have now all gathered in one sack. They held a press conference the day before yesterday. [laughter] The surprising thing is that they spoke of liberties. They hold a press conference. Afterward, everyone of them goes home without being harmed. He also travels abroad and engages in shameless abuse, yet nobody tells such a person anything or does anything to him. However, at the time of the law of ethics, these persons tried to draw an authority into the issue that is cherished by all of us and holy to all of us: the judiciary.

I said that while I was constructing the state and choosing an emblem for the head of state, I chose justice and power. However, justice comes before power. The judiciary is based on justice. The armed forces constitute the force intended for defending the country.

I said that as his emblem, the president of the republic should wear the sash of the judiciary on his military uniform. Why? In the course of history and while we were laying the foundation for the edifice, they tried to draw the judiciary into the issue of the law of ethics. Naturally, they found support from a very tiny minority. I mention this minority, although I should not have done so today, only for the sake of learning a lesson. Why? I mention this minority because reports were carried by foreign radios, also in accordance with the method used for distorting Egypt's image. Such reports were also published in newspapers in our country. You notice that the patriotic newspapers at that time carried no reports at all about what had happened. The reason is that I had told them: Do not write anything.

The opposition newspaper carried such reports. It showed the outside world that for the sake of the law of ethics, the whole judiciary had been mobilized. [laughter] I do not mind the method used. No, I care for the judiciary. Neither the opposition newspaper nor these things have any value as far as I am concerned. The judiciary is valuable to me.

I want to say that the radios of Libya, Baghdad and Damascus and Arab newspapers throughout the Arab world have disseminated reports aimed at undermining Egypt's prestige. They do this by saying that As-Sadat restricts freedom by a law and the entire judiciary is behind this action. They distorted the image of our judiciary. I refuse to accept this distortion. I want to rectify it for the sake of history. Therefore, I will leave for you two items that will place things in their true perspective.

Those who wanted to perpetrate this distortion of the judiciary's image prepared a paper for the club elections. In this paper, they say: To defend the word judiciary and the dignity of the judiciary, to insure the continuity of the serious work that the club initiated in the past 2 years to completely furnish the library of themen of the judiciary with all it requires and to care for their interests and demands, and to those who say the truth unto the people without being weakened by desire or awe because they seek justice as one of the great qualities of God, to the men of the judiciary. [sentence incomplete]

On the other hand, they say: God is the defender of the faithful. They also say: Fear those who have been told by people that people have grouped against you, He has strengthened their faith. And they have said: We rely on God, who is our best guardian.

You read the following verse in the leaflets bearing the signatures: Fear those who have been told by people that people have grouped against you, he has strengthened their faith.

They want to imply that someone is lying in wait for the judiciary here in our country, in Egypt.

Glory to God and to his prophet and the believers. We are proud of ourselves and Egypt indeed has its dignity. I gave them an opportunity, 1 year. They are still envious. Well, my decision is that as of today, until our people conclude their discussion and inform me of their decision, if anyone asks for the restoration of relations, no Arab ambassador of any of the states which have severed their relations with us will return to Cairo again or set foot in Cairo. We will only have two embassies here. The Embassy of Oman and the Embassy of Somalia.

However, when it comes to Sudan, I am indeed sad. Why? If a human being utters any obscenity, let him think it to himself. Numayri made a mistake. He slandered Egypt. I never take it to heart it someone slanders me. Politics tolerates such a thing--and I have been slandered many times intentionally or unintentionally. I do not care about this. However, I do not condone defamation of Egypt.

While he was in the Gulf to obtain aid, Numayri said: I will not set foot in Egypt. Well, Egypt's land is noble and it will not lose much if Numayri will not set foot in it. However, Numayri will lose everything if he does not set foot in Egypt.

Therefore, and as far as they are concerned, I have left the decision for Sudan to make. If they desire to open an embassy, let them open one. If they do not want to open an embassy, then they are free. The rest of the Arabs will have offices only. Why? Our relationship with our Arab nation will not be severed. This is because, whether we like it or not and whether they like it or not, we are Arabs. Our fate is one and our destiny is one.

We will revert to our status as peoples, as we had been before. They became states and broke off their relations with Egypt. Let us revert to what we were. All these were shaykhdoms, and we know this. When they struck oil, they turned these shaykhdoms into states.

As soon as they could do so, they went on the offensive. What did they want? To sever their relations with Egypt. Why? Because Egypt has its will and with its 11 millions said yes. They defied Egypt and said no, severed relations and attacked Egypt with obscenities.

As of tomorrow, they have offices and not embassies. This will be effective until our people give their opinion on this. For your information, as of tomorrow we have no battle with any Arab state, at all. I beg our press to stop everything with regard to the Arabs. The battle of construction ahead of us is more important than that. [applause]

With regard to the talks, you know that the talks conducted by Dr Mustafa Khalil in Herzliyya ended with no progress being made. The talks conducted earlier in the Netherlands also made no progress. I have recently asked for the suspension of the talks until we reassess our position. Tomorrow, God willing, there will be a meeting in 'Abidin Palace which will be attended by me, the vice president, Dr Mustafa Khalil, Kamal Hasan 'Ali, and Butrus Ghali in order to formulate our position.

I want to be frank with you. The gap between the two positions is huge. But I want to draw your attention to something said at the beginning of my speech. An Arab sent a message to me saying: Brother, you have taken Sinai. Leave the rest. They are attacking you. Why don't you leave the issue to them and tell them: Please, Arabs, I have taken my Sinai; you solve the Palestinian problem and show me what you can do. He says that this will be the starting point for the Arabs to return. I will give him this simple answer: When we concluded the treaty with Israel, or when we concluded the Camp David agreements, the aim was not separate peace.

Otherwise, we could say that we have taken Sinai, and there is no problem between me and Israel. No, we have implemented part of the Camp David agreements--the Egyptian treaty--as a foundation stone. The second part is: Full autonomy for the Palestinians. This has not been implemented, and it must be implemented. This is because it constitutes part of the Camp David agreement and is part of Egypt's strategy.

It is clear that we will achieve nothing definite by 26 May. We could achieve something if we start the talks, but we will achieve nothing definite by that date. It is clear that this constitutes a grave situation.

I think, as the Arabs say, what would make Begin happiest would be for me to tell him that I don't want to negotiate tomorrow and leave the West Bank, Gaza, and no autonomy, and so forth. I think this would be the happiest situation. They sit thousands of miles away and say to Begin: We want the borders of 1947 or the territory occupied in 1967. Begin tells them: No. Come, let us negotiate. They say: No, we will not come. It is clear.

President Carter talked to me yesterday. Actually, it was not just a telephone conversation; it was talks, because we spent a long time and held a long discussion. First, he sends you his greetings and the greetings of the American people. [applause] Then he told me that our responsibility is to complete the Camp David agreement--and I definitely agree with him. What the Arabs want and what Begin wants is for me to say: Let us finish with this headache. We have built and developed, and I abolished martial law today, and we are going ahead. No. Egypt has a responsibility. This is its fate dictated by history. Just as it is a leader in its Islamic nation, it is a leader in its Arab nation. We will not abandon our fate and our responsibility. Therefore, after the long discussion between me and Carter yesterday, I have decided that we respond to the request to start talks after we announce our position tomorrow, God willing. I will meet tomorrow with the vice president, Dr Mustafa Khalil, Kamal 'Ali and Butrus Ghali. Then we will announce our position, which you all know. We do not speak on behalf of the Palestinians; the settlements, old or new, are illegal; Jerusalem is part of the West Bank, and any change in Jerusalem in illegal. Is there anything clearer than this? [applause]

What do you want? I do not believe that any Arab leader who feigns enthusiasm said more than what I said in the Knesset tc Israel, Begin and the entire world. The Arab leaders say this while sitting in their chambers, but I said it in the Knesset and everywhere.

As for our stand toward the peace process and to the United States, I take this opportunity and in your name I extend to President Carter and the American people our thanks for the aid they are giving us. I have told you that our Arab brothers, the shaykhs [laughter], their highnesses and majesties wanted to strangle us last year. They were very happy. God Almighty was with us and then the United States, the FRG and Japan stood with us. All the Western countries stood with us. We managed to break up the bottleneck. We are now in a stage of achieving prosperity. This is the remaining point, and I will tell you about a few new measures and actions.

The United States stood with us. We will not waste our time with those who say that we gave facilities to the United States so that it could go to Iran and that Egypt is subject to U.S. influence. This is nonsense. In the past, Egypt was subject to Russian influence, and I expelled the experts. I expelled the Soviet experts 4 years before I established relations with the United States.

At one time I had no relations with the United States or the Soviet Union. Why? Who responds to our will and decision? In whose interests is this? It seems that this talk satisfies certain people. I do not care much for this. Egypt is a sovereign and independent state that makes its own decisions. The splendor of the national rule we have begun today was marred by martial laws that made us look like police states, although I have not used these laws since I came to power 10 years ago. However, this spot has been removed and our construction is great.

Egypt is a state that makes its own decisions, has its own will and construction, pride and honor. Those who befriend us on this basis will be our friend; those who do not will not be. We will extend our hand to those who respect these principles. The United States respects Egypt's independence, will and its decision. The United States stood with us. I gave them facilities because I promised them facilities if they wanted to rescue the hostages or if any Arab Gulf state needed U.S. help. The United States alone can help the Gulf states. We did this despite the fact that the Arab Gulf states are slandering us these days and despite their falshood, which reached the point of saying that they do not want anyone to defend them.

How wonderful! In the Gulf, the shaykhs could defend themselves against the Soviet Union. I know and they know that it is the United States which is protecting them. I told the United States: If you want to help a Gulf state, I will give you facilities. However, it is obvious, and I say it clearly and at the top of my voice, if the United States wants to occupy any land, no. We are neither for the occupation of any land nor for giving facilities to any state to occupy anyone else's land; never. Why? This is axiomatic in our policy, and we do not want to waste our time with this or talk about it.

Concerning the Soviet Union's occupation of Afghanistan, I am sorry. We cannot do what Syria did because we are not like it. We do not sell out our will or decisions, because I need protection; No. I beg you and the people to relieve me, but you do not want to. I do not need the protection of anyone. I need God's and your protection here. [applause]

Our stand is well known. If the Soviet Union wants to improve or takes one step forward, we will take two. If Russia takes one step, I will take two. If it occupied Afghanistan, I would go two steps back. No, we will not accept either this or the attempt to incite the people around us against the (?West).

In building peace, I come to the topic of building prosperity. This is a basic subject I wanted to elaborate on. [applause] However, before I talk about prosperity, there are draft bills that I submitted to your eminences for your urgent discussion. A draft bill to establish the state security courts is provided for in Article--one minute please--Article 171 provides for the formation of the state security courts in the judicial estate. Of course, we have restored normal life with the abolishment of the martial laws tomorrow at 2400, God willing.

I ask for the law on forming the state security courts in which we will follow the French system. In the French system, there are three advising judges and two officers from the military judiciary. We also did better than the French system. We have three basic advisors, and two military men can be added.

In the French system, there has to be two military judges, and in other departments, most of the judges are military if the issue concerns the armed forces. However, we will adopt one system that consists of three advisers, and two officers can be added. This is the French theory, which we advanced.

Second, there are a group of laws on supplies, lifting and increasing sanctions on contraventions, and the like.

Now that martial law has been abolished I ask you for authorization to secure the country's economy. I am asking you for an authorization which you can limit to 1 year or make it renewable annually to secure the country's economy. Simply speaking, when our Arab brothers wanted to suffocate us and complained about us, they actually wanted, as you will remember, to declare us bankrupt. Therefore, I want you to give me the authority to deal with this. I do not want this authority for any political action. The authority is not political, but economic, to protect the country's economy.

A second law will pertain to changing the date of the fiscal year--to start in July instead of January, as I will explain to you when speaking about prosperity and economy. In a month's time from now and until July, I will present you with a budget after reconsidering it once more. It will be presented to you before you recess in July, God willing. This is concerning the fixing of the fiscal year.

Another urgent matter is the establishment of a fund for the green revolution. Establishing a bank for national development is not urgent. Another urgent matter is the bill on comprehensive social insurance. I want every male and female Egyptian to be insured against disability, illness, old age and death before the end of this year, God willing. [applause]

I will not speak long about the prosperity process, but I will outline to you the main features of the new economy policy. The main features of the new economy policy which aims at easing the sufferings of the masses and tackling the problem of inflation and high prices are based on the following:

--To increase the income without increasing the prices of basic commodities by imposing controls and special supervision. What will happen is an increase in the minimum wages.

--To reduce the prices of some basic commodities. A list is available here.

--To revise the foundations of the economic administration of the society including rationalizing foreign trade. The budget will be presented to you within 1 month. The minimum wages I told you about will be increased from 16 to 20 [pounds] without increasing the prices.

--To fully implement Law Number 83 during the period June 1980 to December 1981.

--To exempt the workers in the government and in the public and private sectors from the defense and national security taxes. [applause]

--To reduce the prices of basic commodities produced by the public sector. Detailed lists, which I have here, will be announced.

You will be provided with these lists in order that you may bring the government to account if it tries to swindle you. [laughter] Detailed lists giving the new prices of 77 commodities will be announced.

These prices will come into effect as of today. I have instructed the public sector to refrain from changing the prices of the popular commodities.

The second point is the price of electricity. We have ended the suffering. Next comes the rationalization of foreign trade and strengthening and rationalizing management and ownership of the public sector. The Cabinet and the ministers concerned will submit all this to you. I will leave with you the list of reduced prices which affect a group of foodstuffs and housing utilities. They also affect the prices of all canned fish, canned vegetables, preserved olives, textiles, clothing and underwear. What is important is that there is a reduction in the prices of supplies, clothes and all basic commodities. All this will be announced to you and the new prices will be applied as of tomorrow. This is what prompted me to tell the people when I was in Al-'Arish not to buy anything but wait until 14 May. [laughter] Moreover, it has been decided to increase the minimum wages of the private sector workers from 16 to 20 pounds in lein with the workers in the public sector. [applause] It has also been decided to pay a special allowance of 10 percent of the last wage they were paid. [applause]

I want to give you an idea about the next stage. There will be no change in the aims we set when Dr Mustafa Khalil formed his cabinet--namely the building of peace, prosperity, and democracy. As you know, we are going ahead with the fulfillment of these aims. We have completed the building of democracy. That stage is over. What remains to be done is democratic practice, which we shall correct. We have been tolerant and will continue to be tolerant, but let no one provoke me, because only Egypt can provoke me. Whoever provokes Egypt will be provoking me, and I will reply with utmost severity. You know me in this respect.

The building of democracy is over. What remains is democratic practice and the need for corrections. Peace takes 5 percent of our activity. In the coming stage, 95 percent of our efforts will be devoted to the building of prosperity. [applause] What does this mean? Prosperity means that I want every family--with these new prices and the 24-hour control--to lead an easy life, to the point where in the coming 2 or 3 years everyone can have a happy home and a happy family. We want to build prosperity for Egypt like in Western Europe and the United States. We are not inferior to them. We have the resources. There is everything. We only need sweat. What is required is sweat. This is the reason when I say that the project which used to take 1 year to complete should now be completed within 1 month, God willing. And what we used to complete within 1 month should now be completed [word indistinct].

I will be at the head of the executive organ. [applause] I will be assisted by the first vice president and deputy prime ministers. There will be three main sectors: The production sector, the economic sector and the services sector. The ministers will be ministers of state. Why? The Cabinet will not consist of them alone. The Cabinet, which will meet each month, will consist of them plus the governors. Why? This is because all power will be transferred to the Governorates effective tomorrow morning. Any governor who cannot carry out his duty should leave his position for somebody else. The government will deal with planning only.

The coming stage requires sweat and propelling force from all of us. The state has been established; democracy has been established; peace has been built. God willing, just as we built democracy and built peace through the initiative, the October war, and so forth, we will embark on the battle of building prosperity for the welfare of every family, every boy and girl of our children so that our future generations and grandchildren can find Egypt a good homeland.

Had not the time passed, I would have told you how vast our resources are. I saw them myself. After the swearing-in ceremony and the measures which will take effect next week, I will begin making inspection tours. I will be going to see the new 6 million Feddans which the oil minister talked about and which were discovered by Al-Barquqi, may God's blessing be upon him. I am going to see them because these are next to other millions.

As I told you, our resources are more than enough to provide prosperity for everyone of us, the 41 million people. But we need sweat, organization, plans and implementation. If the executive organ and all the state organs will not leave me alone, I will not leave them alone. [laughter and applause]

Brothers and sisters, in this historic conference, let me call on you in deepest sincerity and faith. I call on you in all honesty and purity of conscience: Unite and do not be divided. Act with love. Love is medicine. Bless each other. Rancor is the worst evil. Destroy hatred, oust it and curse it.

[Text] Cleanse your hearts of the epidemic of hatred; rise above trivialities; be great in all behavior and decisions. You are all the powers of the state. Egypt cannot exist without you, the authorities of the entire state now attending this historic session. Support the oppressed, and do not usurp the rights of the deprived or the coerced. Do not withdraw help from any needy or hurt person. This is your gift to Egypt which gave you everything. Beware of spreading evil and turn deaf ears to the inciters of evils. Nip sedition in the bud, sedition of the heart when it is misled, sedition of words when it defames and misleads, and seditious behavior when the corrupt on earth tamper with behavior.

Brothers and sisters, representatives of the authority in Egypt: Your strength lies in your unity and your unity lies in your security and safety. Your safety and security come from your faith, strength, unity, and with faith you can shake mountains and abate storms and volcanoes. By your strength, unity and faith, you are the protectors of Egypt, its pride and will. Each one of you is a bastion of Egypt's freedom.

Brothers and sisters, representatives of authority in Egypt, have I conveyed the message, and may God bear witness? God, do not condemn us if we forget or fall into error. Our Lord: Lay not on us a burden greater than we have strength to bear. Blot out our sins, and grant us forgiveness. Have mercy on us. Thou art our protector; help us against those who stand against faith. Peace be upon you.

PRESIDENTIAL DECREE ON FORMATION OF NEW CABINET

JN142020 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1940 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 May--A decree was issued this evening by the president of the Arab Republic of Egypt on the formation of the Cabinet under President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat and the reshuffling of the higher posts in the state. The following is text of the decree:

President of the republic, taking cognizance of the constitutional decrees:

Article One: The president of the republic Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat shall assume the premiership.

Article Two: The higher posts in the state shall be reshuffled as stated in the following articles:

Article Three: Muhammad Husni Mubarak is appointed vice president.

Article Four: Dr Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din is appointed deputy prime minister and Kamal Hasan 'Ali, deputy prime minister and minister of foreign affairs.

Fikri Makram 'Ubayd is appointed deputy prime minister for People's Assembly affairs.

Muhammad Nabawi Isma'il is appointed deputy prime minister for services and interior ministers.

Engineer Ahmad 'Izz ad-Din Hilal is appointed deputy prime minister for production and oil affairs.

Dr 'Abd ar-Razzaq 'Abd al-Majid is appointed deputy prime minister for economic and financial affairs and minister of planning, finance and economy.

Dr Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din shall represent the president of the republic in heading the Cabinet meeting during his absence. He shall also be the one to present the Cabinet's program to the People's Assembly.

Article Five: The following appointments are made:

Lt Gen Ahmad Badawi Sayyid Ahmad, minister of defense and war production.

Dr Mustafa Kamal Hilmi, minister of state for education and scientific research.

Dr Amal 'Abd ar-Rahim 'Uthman, minister of social insurance and minister of state for social affairs.

Engineer Hasaballah Muhammad al-Kafrawi, minister of development and minister of state for housing and land reclamation.

Dr Butrus Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs.

Dr Sa'd Muhammad Ahmad, minister of state for working forces and food security.

Engineer Sulayman Mutawalli Sulayman, minister of transport, communications and maritime transport.

Engineer Muhammad 'Abd al-Hadi Samahah, minister of irrigation and minister of state for Sudan affairs.

'Abd al-Akhir Muhammad 'Umar 'Abd al-Akhir, minister of state for People's Assembly affairs.

'Ali Jammal an-Nazir, minister of tourism and civil aviation.

Mr Mamduh Kamal Jabr, minister of health.

Anwar 'Abd al-Fattah Abu Sihli, minister of justice.

Mansur Muhammad Mahmud Hasan, minister of state for culture and information.

Engineer Muhammad Taha Zaki, minister of industry and mineral resources.

Engineer Muhammad Mahir Muhammad 'Uthman Abazah, minister of electricity.

Ahmad Ahmad Nuh, minister of supply and internal trade.

Dr Engineer Jamal as-Sayyid Ibrahim, minister of state for war production.

Dr Zakariya al-Barri, minister of state for Awqaf.

Article Six: The services sector shall comprise the minister of state for education and scientific research; the minister of social insurance and minister of state for social affairs; the minister of state for housing, development and land reclamation; the minister of state for the working forces and training; the minister of state for health and the minister of state for Awqaf.

The production sector shall consist of: The minister of state for agriculture and food security; the minister of transport, communications and maritime transport; the minister of irrigation; the minister of industry and mineral resources; and the minister of electricity.

The economic and financial affairs sector shall consist of the minister of tourism and civil aviation and the minister of supply and internal trade.

Article Seven: This decree shall be published in the official gazette.

Signed: Answar as-Sadat

DECREE PLACES TWO MINISTERS UNDER MUHYI AD-DIN

JN142050 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 May--A presidential decree was issued this evening, giving Deputy Prime Minister Dr Ahmad Fu'ad Muhyi ad-Din the jurisdictions provided in laws and regulations for the minister of state for Al-Azhar affairs and the minister of local government.

NEW CABINET SWORN IN BY AS-SADAT 15 MAY

NC151000 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0952 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 15 May--Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak took the constitutional oath this morning at the Republican Palace in 'Abidin in the presence of President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat.

Members of the new cabinet were also sworn in before the president. The ceremony was attended by Mumammad Husni Mubarak, Presidential Secretary General Mahmud 'Abd an-Nasir and acting Chief Aide-de-Camp Maj Gen Hasan 'Allam.

NEW CABINET TO CONVENE UNDER AS-SADAT 19 MAY

JN142044 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1945 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 May--The new Egyptian Cabinet will hold its first meeting under President Anwar as-Sadat on Monday. This was stated today by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, who added that during this meeting, which will be attended by the governors, President as-Sadat will give his directives to both the ministers and the governors at this important stage.

AS-SADAT THANKS FORMER PRIME MINISTER KHALIL FOR SERVICES

NC150631 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2142 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Cairo, 14 May--President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has expressed his great appreciation of the splendid role played by Former Prime Minister Dr Mustafa Khalil since he assumed the post of prime minister at an important, historic juncture, which witnessed the birth of the era of peace and of comprehensive reconstruction with all the hope this era brings to the sons of our noble people.

This appreciation is contained in a letter President Muhammad Anwar as-Sadat has sent to Dr Mustafa Khalil in reply to Dr Khalil's letter of resignation. The following is the text of the president's letter:

I have received with appreciation your letter of 12 May 1980 in which you and your colleagues, the Cabinet members, tendered your resignations after having discharged your national mission with which you were assigned at that critical juncture in national action. By your service, you have added to your great credit in the domain of work for the dignity of immortal Egypt and its noble people.

I want to express to you my deep appreciation of the splendid work you carried out at home and abroad since you assumed responsibility at this important and historic juncture, which witnessed the birth of the era of peace and of comprehensive reconstruction with all the hope this era brings to the sons of our noble people.

I am delighted and very proud to see that you have honored the trust placed in you in the best manner. You deserve my confidence and that of the Egyptian people. Furthermore, you correctly assessed the priorities of national action and directed all your interest and care toward solving the fundamental problems from which our struggling people are suffering. You scrupulously pursued a wise and scientific course based on realism and on placing public interest above all other considerations. You were also impartial and adhered to the noble values of the Egyptian people, who presented human civilization with its earliest achievements.

You succeeded in strengthening the ties of cooperation and solidarity among the people's various institutions, and you based the relations among these institutions on a faith in the same interests and objectives and on avoiding hatred and conflict. By so doing, you contributed toward consolidating real democracy and toward perpetuating the concept of sublime loyalty to the Egyptian people, who are the source of all authority and who stand to benefit from all kinds of national action. I have no doubt that you will continue to make your great contributions to the welfare of our cherished homeland in any post you will occupy, and that you will place all your experience and knowledge in the service of our loyal and glorious people. I invoke God to grant you all the success and happiness you rightfully deserve.

FOREIGN MINISTRY STATEMENT ON AUTONOMY TALKS

NC151524 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1505 GMT 15 May 80

[15 May Foreign Ministry Statement]

[Text] President Anwar as-Sadat held a meeting today which was attended by Vice President Muhammad Husni Mubarak, Deputy Leader of the National Democratic Party Dr Mustafa Khalil, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister Gen Kamal Hasan 'Ali and Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali.

The conferees discussed the situation of the autonomy talks for the Palestinians in light of the results of the latest talks and telephone conversations between President as-Sadat and U.S. President Carter.

In his speech at the People's Assembly yesterday President as-Sadat expressed Egypt's readiness to resume the negotiations out of its concern to make the peace efforts succeed and to reach an agreement on establishing full autonomy in the West Bank and Gaza as a first step toward settling the Palestinian problem. However, Israel has announced, through the head of its delegation to the autonomy talks, that the Israeli Government was preparing a basic government law which stipulates, among other things, that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel. The head of the Israeli delegation said that he asked that a draft law on this issue be referred to the committee on constitution, judiciary and law. This creates a grave situation that contradicts the principles of international law and legality, the Camp David framework and the spirit of peace.

Furthermore, Israel has recently been making statements conducive to creating a status quo that contradicts the principle of negotiating from goodwill, because through such actions and statements, it tries to keep certain issues out of the framework of the negotiations, which is a clear violation of the principles of negotiations and of the essence of the current efforts for peace.

Also, all this was accompanied by Israel's escalation of repressive measures in the occupied territories in a manner contrary to the spirit of trust-building which was agreed upon as a part of the peace process and as a means of eliminating the suffering of the Palestinian people under the yoke of occupation.

In view of all these attitudes Israel has made it difficult to promote the appropriate atmosphere for the resumption of negotiations under the present circumstances, which necessitates that Israel must revise its position.

Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Dr Butrus Ghali will hold a press conference this evening to explain Egypt's position on the autonomy negotiations. He will also convey the Egyptian position to the U.S. ambassador in Cairo.

JOINT STATEMENT ISSUED ON GRENADAN PRIME MINISTER'S VISIT

JN141555 Baghdad INA in English 1510 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Baghdad (INA)--Iraq and Grenada stressed that a just and durable peace cannot be achieved in the Arab region without the full and unconditional withdrawal of the Zionist forces from all the occupied Arab territories.

Both countries expressed the necessity that the Arab Palestinian people must regain their full rights on their territory and homeland Palestine, and the establishment of their sovereign independent state on their entire Palestinian soil under the leadership of their sole legitimate representative, the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO).

A joint communique issued here today at the end of a 3-day official visit by Maurice Bishop, Granada's prime minister to Iraq, recalled the resolution of the United Nations General Assembly considering Zionism as a form of racism and racial discrimination.

The two sides condemned the Zionist aggression against southern Lebanon "which constitutes part of the imperialist manoeuverings aimed at liquidating the Palestinian people and violates the sovereignty of Lebanon and its territorial integrity".

The two countries vigorously condemned the Camp David accords and the capitulationist treaty concluded between the Egyptian regime and the Zionist entity with active participation of the United States of America.

Grenada stressed once more its solidarity with the Arab people in their steadfastness against the conspiracies aiming all liquidating the rights of the Arab Palestinian people and the attempt at disuniting Arab ranks and keeping Arab territories under Zionist occupation.

The Grenada delegation lauded the principles and aims contained in the pan-Arab declaration announced by President Saddam Husayn last February to regulate Arab relations. In this regard, the two sides stressed that preserving security and stability in the Arab Gulf region is the sole responsibility of the states of that region, without any foreign intervention.

They also stressed their support for making the Indian Ocean and its natural extensions a zone of peace, free from foreign bases in the interest of the states and peoples of the area and world peace and security.

On the current situation in the Caribbean and Latin America, Iraq and Grenada vigorously condemned the renewed U.S. efforts to expand its military role in the Caribbean, and its establishment of "a task force" and by staging of provocative military exercises to intimidate the peoples of the region. The two countries denounced imperialist efforts to bring counterrevolutionary pressures to bear on the governments and peoples of Cuba, Nicaragua and Grenada. Both sides condemned the existence of foreign military bases against the will of the local peoples in several parts of the Caribbean.

The two sides expressed strong support for the recent resolution of the Organization of American States designating the Caribbean as a zone of peace. Both sides also asserted the right of Caribbean nations to control and exploit the resources of the Caribbean Sea for the benefit of their own peoples and rejected the designs of rapacious transnational corporations and imperialist interlopers on these resources.

The two sides view with concern the negative development in international relations and tension among the big powers which "serves as warning of the return of the cold war policy and sharp conflicts among blocs".

In their discussion of the non-aligned movement, the two countries praised the resolutions taken by the Sixth Non-aligned Summit Conference held in Havana. They stressed their resolve determination to work for the unity and the basic principles of the movement, and enhancing its role and effectiveness in establishing a new international order for international political and economic relations in the world.

The Grenada side supported the proposal put forward by Iraq on many occasions, the last of which was at the Sixth Non-aligned Summit, for developing the movement, enhancing its effectiveness in international relations, the strengthening of political, and economic ties among its members, the establishment of qualitative organizations for producers, supporting the negotiating positions of the states of the movement with a view to freeing their wealth and natural resources from monopolies and multinational companies in pursuit of the goal of the establishment of the new economic order on the basis of justice and equality.

The two sides agreed on full coordination for ensuring the success of the Seventh Non-aligned Summit to be held in Baghdad in 1982.

Iraq and Grenada called for a policy of peaceful co-existence among the peoples in various parts of the world regardless of the nature of their social systems. They appealed to various peoples and states, including the superpowers, to conduct themselves with a real sense of responsibility in questions which threaten world security and peace among the nations.

The two sides also stressed their full support for the United Nations and for the basic principles enshrined in the charter, including the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of other states, eliminating the danger of the threat of the use of force in international relations, respect for the self-determination and independence of the peoples and sovereign equality among states.

The two sides reiterated their support for the necessity of coordination by the developing states of their efforts for implementing the resolutions of the United Nations General Assembly at its two special sessions on the establishment of a new international economic order.

Grenada valued Iraq's initiative of putting forward the proposal of establishing a long-term world fund for assisting the developing states against the adverse effects of inflation, on the basis of the advanced industrialized states, regardless of the nature of their political and economic systems, contributing to that fund in the amount of the annual inflation exported by them to the developing states. The fund would also be contributed by the oil-producing developing states. The two sides called on the states concerned to adopt and assist a practical formula for bringing the proposal into implementation.

Prime Minister Bishop extended a cordial invitation to President Saddam Husayn to pay a state visit to Grenada at a convenient date.

FRENCH OFFICIAL DELIVERS MESSAGE FROM FORMER PREMIER CHIRAC

JN141434 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1340 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 14 May--Revolution Command Council member and Deputy Prime Minister Tariq 'Aziz met here today with (George Guyess), French minister and prominent figure in the Gaullist party of rally for the republic. During the meeting, the two sides exchanged viewpoints on the various Arab and international issues.

Foreign Minister Dr Sa'dun Hammadi also met with (George Guyess), who handed him a message from President Saddam Husayn from former French Prime Minister Jacques Chirac. They discussed ways of developing bilateral relations.

SOUTHERN YEMEN PATRIOTIC GROUPING OFFICIAL DEPARTS

JN141913 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1845 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 14 May--'Abd al-Qawi Makkawi, secretary general of the National Grouping of the Patriotic Forces in Southern Yemen, left Baghdad this evening at the conclusion of a 9-day visit.

Makkawi said that the meeting of the factions of the National Grouping of the Patriotic Forces is considered the first of its kind in the history of Yemen. He added that under this grouping all opposition forces have been unified. He said that during the meetings of the ordinary session of the constituent committee, Shaykhan al-Habashi has been elected assistant secretary general and Muhammad 'Ali Haytham a secretary.

Makkawi said that he will return to Baghdad once again during the next 2 months to fix the date of a conference for the grouping. Representatives of all Southern Yemeni people will take part in that conference in order to elect an expanded leadership and a national council for the grouping.

CANADIAN PARTY LEADER DEPARTS 14 MAY

JN141348 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1335 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 14 May--Robert Coates, organizational president of the Canadian Progressive Conservative Party and member of the Canadian Parliament, left Baghdad this afternoon at the end of a 5-day visit to Iraq.

Robert Coates said that his talks with the Iraqi officials dealt with the two countries' economic relations and ways of promoting them.

FOREIGN MINISTRY OFFICIAL RETURNS FROM DPRK

JN141020 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0940 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 14 May--Mundhir 'Uraym, Iraqi Foreign Ministry under secretary, and the accompanying delegation arrived here today after an official 4-day visit to the DPRK. During the visit, 'Uraym held talks with Korean officials on ways to promote bilateral relations. They also discussed issues of common interest, as well as current international issues and ways to promote nonalignment.

IRANIAN AGENT REVEALS PLAN TO ASSASSINATE IRAQIS

JN150854 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0840 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Baghdad, 15 May--A new agent working for the Persian regime in Iran has revealed criminal schemes that were intended to be carried out by the Ad-Da'wah Party against high-ranking Iraqi officials.

The agent, Hamid 'Aziz 'Ali, said in a press interview published here today that the agent Ad-Da'wah Party officials commissioned him to prepare a scheme against the state's institutions and departments in preparation for carrying out assassination attempts against Iraqi officials and blowing up buildings, as part of the Persian regime's instructions. He added that he distributed arms that were smuggled from Iran among the party's cells. He said that the arms include revolvers, handgrenades and silencers.

Agent Hamid said that he had forged identity cards and several stolen official seals in his possession when he was arrested.

U.S. DIPLOMAT HABIB RECEIVED BY KING, PRIME MINISTER

Meeting With Husayn

JN150814 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 May 80 p 1

[Text] Amman--At the Royal Hashemite Court yesterday afternoon, His Majesty King Husayn received Philip Habib, the U.S. State Department's special representative.

Meeting With Premier

JN150815 Amman AD-DUSTUR in Arabic 15 May 80 p 1

[Text] Amman--Prime Minister ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf received Philip Habib, special representative of the U.S. State Department, at his office yesterday evening.

During the meeting, issues pertaining to the Al-Maqarin Dam project on the Yarmuk River and related technical and legal issues were discussed.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim; President of the National Planning Council Hanna 'Awdah; Engineer 'Umar 'Abdallah, chairman of the Jordan Valley Authority; the U.S. ambassador in Amman; and the delegation accompanying Philip Habib.

ARAB LEAGUE SECRETARY GENERAL MEETS HUSAYN, PREMIER

Received by King

JN141502 Amman JNA in Arabic 1445 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Amman, 14 May--His Majesty King Husayn received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at the Royal Hashemite Court this afternoon. The talks dealt with the preparations made for the 11th Arab summit conference, which will be held in Amman in November, and with the provision of all means that will insure its success and achieve the Arab nation's pan-Arab aspirations.

Received by Prime Minister

JN141244 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Prime Minister His Excellency ash-Sharif 'Abd al-Hamid Sharaf today received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi. The discussion at the meeting dealt with matters related to the 11th Arab summit conference scheduled to be held in Amman in November and the Arab foreign and economic ministers conference scheduled to be held in Amman in July. His excellency the prime minister and the Arab League secretary general also reviewed developments in the current Arab situation and international issues.

The meeting was attended by Minister of State for Foreign Affairs Marwan al-Qasim.

BUTRUS REPORTS ON UK TALKS, SAYS U.S. MIDEAST EFFORT FAILED

NC150629 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 14 May 80

[Excerpts] After his various meetings in the British capital, Lebanese Foreign Minister Fu'ad Butrus talked with Lebanese and Arab newsmen in London about his impressions. Our correspondent in London, Ibrahim al-Barjawi, reports:

[Begin recording] Minister Butrus said that, as a result of his talks in Britain, he got the impression that British officials believe that the U.S. policies and the Camp David agreements concerning a Middle East solution have failed, and that these officials do not want to embarrass U.S. officials at this stage--particularly during the presidential primaries.

Minister Butrus also expressed his belief that Britian was on the way to solving its conflict with the EEC over its contribution to the EEC budget. After this, Britain will participate in British-French-FRG efforts aimed at drawing up a European initiative on Middle East problems, including the Lebanese crisis. This initiative will be announced after the U.S. elections or before the Democratic Party's decision to renominate Carter for the presidency. [end recording]

PHALANGIST COMMANDER COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT SPEECH

NC150705 (Clandestine) Voice of Lebanon in Arabic to Lebanon 0615 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Shaykh Bashir al-Jumayyil, commenting on President Anwar as-Sadat's speech and his attack on Christians and Phalangists, has said: President as-Sadat's statements against the Phalangist party were offhand and incorrect. We hope they will not hold us responsible for the deteriorating situation in any Arab country subjected to internal shocks.

In any case, experience has taught us that whenever any responsible man begins to utter insults, it means that he is being subjected to domestic disturbances. We hope that our condition will not be similar to that of the Copts in Egypt.

DECREE ISSUED EXPANDING PRIME MINISTER'S POWERS

JN150634 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0415 GMT 15 May 80

[Text of 14 May Legislative Decree Number 27 issued by Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad]

[Text] In accordance with the provisions of the constitution, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1: The prime minister will promulgate the legal instruments which, according to the laws and regulations, will be issued by presidential decree with regard to the following matters:

A. Regarding state officials and employees:

1. Promotion, assignment, appointment, lending of employees and the transfer of employees within the same department or to another department.
2. Discharge on medical grounds, fracture of the hand and transfer to the disciplinary council.
3. Transfer to provisional retirement outside the department and resignation.
4. Judges, military, diplomatic and consular employees and high dignitaries shall be exempted from the previous provisions.

B. Committees will be named to cancel rights acquired on public water.

C. Permits exploiting stone quarries will be prohibited.

Article 2: The sixth paragraph of the second article of Law No 6 of 1959 will be revoked.

The previous provisions will again be applied as a result of the issuance of the above-mentioned law.

The relevant legal instruments will be promulgated by the prime minister.

Article 3: All valid laws and regulations will be considered amended, to comply with the provisions of this legislative decree.

Article 4: This legislative decree will be published and be force as of the time of its issuance.

Damascus, 14 May 1980

[Signed] President of the Republic Hafiz al-Asad.

AL-KASM RECEIVES USSR'S SKACHKOV 14 MAY

JN150713 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 2115 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] At 1830 today Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received Semen Skachkov, chairman of the Soviet committee for external economic relations; Vladimir Mordvinov, deputy chairman of the Soviet committee for external economic affairs; and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus. The meeting was attended by Dr Salim Yasin, Syrian minister of state for planning affairs; and Hamid Mar'i, assistant minister of planning.

During the meeting Skachkov expressed his appreciation of Syria's steps in economic and social development. He conveyed the greetings of Aleksey Kosygin, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, to Prime Minister Dr al-Kasm.

Discussions during the meeting centered on Syrian-USSR economic and technical relations, which are developing constantly as a result of the close relations between the two countries, governments and peoples. The two sides welcomed the positive steps that have been achieved to date by the technical committee during its meetings in Damascus. At the end of the meeting the prime minister asked Skachkov to convey his greetings to the USSR chairman of the Council of Ministers.

At 1730 today 'Abd al-Qadir Qaddurah, deputy prime minister for economic affairs, received Skachkov and his aides. They reviewed the steps achieved by the joint Syrian-Soviet committee. They also reviewed the technical committee's accomplishments in consolidating Syrian-Soviet economic and technical relations.

SYRIAN-SOVIET PROTOCOL SIGNED IN DAMASCUS 14 MAY

JN150908 Damascus ATH-THAWRAH in Arabic 14 May 80 pp 1, 11

[Text] Damascus--At the Euphrates Dam Ministry yesterday evening, in the presence of Euphrates Dam Minister Dr Yahya al-Khayir, a protocol was signed for the tenth session of meetings of the subcommittee for irrigation affairs, which derives from the permanent Syrian-Soviet committee for economic, scientific and technical cooperation.

The protocol was signed for the Syrian side by the assistant to the Euphrates Dam minister and chairman of the subcommittee for irrigation and for the Soviet side by the first deputy to the minister of land reclamation and water resources in the Soviet Union.

A responsible source in the Euphrates Dam Ministry has stated that during its meetings, the Syrian-Soviet joint committee for irrigation discussed both sides' implementation of their commitments to plan and establish irrigation and land reclamation projects.

PRIME MINISTER AL-KASM RECEIVES KUWAITI PRESS

JN141341 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1215 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Damascus--At 1000 today Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm received the Kuwaiti press and news agency editors-in-chief and correspondents who are accompanying Kuwaiti heir apparent and Prime Minister His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah on his visit to Syria. Al-Kasm discussed several issues pertaining to the current Arab and international affairs.

The prime minister also discussed the main projects of the economic and social development plan and the course which the government is following in implementing these projects.

The prime minister affirmed the significance of the visit to Syria by the Kuwaiti heir apparent and the delegation accompanying him. He also affirmed the positive results of the Kuwaiti-Syrian talks and their impact on developing the fraternal relations between the two fraternal states, relations which will be manifested through increasing bilateral cooperation in all fields.

SYRIAN-KUWAITI PRESS STATEMENT ISSUED 14 MAY

JN141826 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 May 80

[Text of joint Syrian-Kuwaiti press statement issued 14 May on the occasion of the visit to Syria by Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister]

[Text] Damascus--In confirmation of the strong fraternal relations between the two countries, and in entrenchment of the solidarity bonds between the two peoples in order to achieve the common goals of the Arab nation, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, led a Kuwaiti delegation on an official visit to the Syrian Arab Republic between 12-14 May 1980. The visit came at the invitation of his brother prime minister, Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm.

His highness the heir apparent and the delegation accompanying him were accorded a warm welcome that has expressed the feelings of fraternity and affection tying the two countries and the two peoples. At the beginning of his visit, his highness the heir apparent met with his excellency President Hafiz al-Asad, president of the Syrian Arab Republic. He conveyed to him a message from his highness the Kuwaiti amir. The message expressed the Kuwaiti amir's great admiration for President Hafiz al-Asad and the fraternal Syrian Arab people.

During this visit official talks were held between his highness the Kuwaiti heir apparent and the Syrian prime minister. The talks were held in a cordial atmosphere permeated by amity, fraternal frankness and sincere desire to further strengthen the bilateral relations and further support the pillars of the joint Arab action, particularly during this critical phase.

The two sides showed special concern in the development in the Arab area, especially following the fierce imperialist-Zionist onslaught which has further escalated and become more dangerous since the Egyptian regime signed the Camp David accords, the Egyptian-Israeli treaty as well as the normalization of relations between this regime and the Zionist enemy. The viewpoints of the two sides were identical regarding the analyses and the discussions that took place during the talks.

Regarding the future the two sides stressed their determination to firmly face and confront the challenges aimed against the Arab nation. The two sides confirmed that Syria, in view of its position, forms a frontline confrontation base in the face of the continuing Zionist aggression on the Arab nation. They stressed that supporting Syria is an important national duty.

The two sides underlined the importance of abandoning the marginal differences among the Arab states and the need for concentrating all efforts in order to serve and, consequently, achieve the Arab nation's goals in the liberation of the occupied territories, including Jerusalem; the restoration of the Palestinian people's national rights, including the right to return to their homeland, their right to self-determination and their right to establish their independent state in Palestine under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative.

The two sides confirmed their support for the just struggle exerted by our Arab people in the occupied West Bank and the other parts of the occupied territories. This struggle forms a real battle against the Zionist enemy and offers further proof of the Arabs' categorical rejection of the Camp David policy.

The two sides reaffirmed their conviction that preservation of security and stability in the Gulf area is the direct responsibility of the area's states away from any foreign interference. They also stressed the need for keeping the area away from any kind of superpowers' struggle.

The two sides also discussed the various developments and current international issues. In this regard the two sides stressed the importance of having various states intensify efforts in order to further strengthen world peace and security on the basis of respecting the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. They also stressed the importance of not interfering in the domestic affairs of any state and of solving disputes among states through peaceful channels.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, heir apparent and prime minister, and the delegation accompanying him expressed their gratitude for the hospitable welcome accorded to them during their visit to the fraternal Syrian Arab Republic. His highness conveyed an invitation to visit Kuwait to his brother Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm. The invitation was accepted and its date will be fixed later.

KUWAITI DELEGATION LEAVES; PRIME MINISTER MAKES STATEMENT

JN141709 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Damascus--His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah, Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister, and the members of his delegation left Damascus at 1430 today, concluding a 3-day official visit to Syria during which he met with President Hafiz al-Asad and conveyed to him a message from his highness the amir of Kuwait. He also held talks with the officials in Syria on strengthening fraternal relations between the two countries and reviewed with them the general situation in the Arab region.

Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah was seen off by Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, Deputy Prime Minister and Foreign Minister 'Abd al-Halim Khaddam and Kuwait Charge d'Affaires in Damascus 'Abd al-Muhsin ad-Dahr.

The Kuwaiti heir apparent and prime minister and Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm arrived at Damascus international airport in an official motorcade. After a brief rest at the VIP lounge at the airport, His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah as-Salim as-Sabah made a statement to the journalists and the representatives of Arab and world news agencies on the outcome of his visit to Syria.

His highness began the statement by saying: I would like to say that I and my colleagues are pleased to have visited Syria, the country of struggle, steadfastness and confrontation, which is dear to every Arab. Shaykh Sa'd added: During my meeting yesterday with President Hafiz al-Asad I conveyed a message from his highness the amir of Kuwait. We talked about the current Arab situation, the critical conditions through which our Arab nation is passing and the developments of the past few months in the Arab region. We also talked about international problems and developments and their positive or negative impact on Arab issues in general and the Palestine question in particular. I can say that our meeting with President Hafiz al-Asad yesterday was useful, fruitful, constructive and positive.

The Kuwaiti prime minister continued: The Kuwaiti and Syrian sides held joint meetings during which they discussed many topics of mutual concern. We spoke about the current situation in Lebanon, the continuous Israeli attacks on south Lebanon, the coming Islamic conference and many other issues. Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah said that viewpoints were identical on all matters discussed during these collective and bilateral meetings. He said: Brothers, we are pleased to be in Syria. We felt at home here and among our kinfolk and brothers.

The Kuwaiti prime minister concluded his statement by saying: While leaving Syria, I and my colleague would like to express our profound thanks and gratitude to President Hafiz al-Asad, Prime Minister Dr 'Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm, the brother members of the Syrian Government and the Syrian people for the extreme hospitality accorded us during this visit. I pray God to bestow security and stability on this country.

TISHRIN COMMENTS ON AS-SADAT'S 14 MAY SPEECH

JN150749 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 15 May 80

[From the press review]

[Excerpts] Commenting on the Egyptian ruler's speech yesterday, the newspaper TISHRIN says that the speech reaffirms that the Egyptian ruler does not intend to change his policy and is, in fact, incapable of changing this policy now that he has become captive to the United States and Israel.

TISHRIN notes that As-Sadat said that he will return to the autonomy plot negotiations with Israel, just as he has done after every fabricated dispute with Israel over the implementation of the Camp David accords, which are hostile to the Arab nation's interests and to the issue of peace in the Middle East.

The paper continues: As-Sadat's speech comes 2 1/2 years after his defeatist visit to Jerusalem and refutes with material evidence and by self-admission every allegation that his policy has achieved regional gains or contributed to solving the problems in Egypt, let alone to the establishment of peace.

Alluding to the grave situation in Egypt, the paper says that As-Sadat admitted the grave internal situation there. The paper adds that this situation has reached a level that prompted As-Sadat to say that he will devote 95 percent of his time in future to remedying internal problems. As-Sadat's admission proves the Egyptian opposition's statements and studies and supports the statements of the Arabs who reject capitulation.

The paper says that the economic, political and social situation in Egypt has deteriorated to the point where not even all of the world's propaganda apparatus could conceal it. This situation further deteriorated when As-Sadat deviated from the pan-Arab policy and joined the front that is hostile to the Arab nation.

In conclusion, the paper says: As-Sadat's instructions to cease campaigns against the Arabs are merely a condemnation of his own policy. As-Sadat was the one who dissociated himself from the Arab ranks. It was he who attacked the Arabs and Arabism. It was he who described the Arabs as ignorant, backward and uncivilized. As-Sadat's speech is a condemnation of his own policy and a document on its failure.

ALGERIA

ENERGY MINISTER INTERVIEWED ON GAS, OIL POLICIES

LD140805 Paris LE MATIN in French 5 May 80 p 5

[Henri Laure interview with Algerian Minister of Energy and Petrochemical Industries Belkacem Nabi in Algiers on 5 May: "Algiers Is Prepared To Abandon Liquefied Gas Production"]

[Excerpt] LE MATIN: Mr Minister, a meeting of gas-producing Gulf states [as published] was recently held in Algiers. Does this mean that you are creating an organization of gas-exporting countries 2 days before the OPEC extraordinary session in At-Ta'if?

Belkacem Nabi: Unfortunately for us Algerians, we are far from having the coherence in gas matters which already exists in oil. This is, moreover, the problem in our trade relations with France. In this connection I will take the opportunity of this interview with LE MATIN to explain to the French public that Algeria is not asking for the moon: it is demanding its due. Like other gas-producing countries, it wants parity between gas and oil prices. A principle which, moreover, is no new demand. The United States conceded this principle with its Canadian and Mexican suppliers. Japan with Indonesia. Germany with Norway. By its specific quality and its cleanness, gas is a more precious form of energy than oil....And I can tell you that the OPEC countries are now prepared to sell their gas more expensively than oil.

LE MATIN: You hope to gain parity between gas and crude oil. France seems to be insisting on parity between gas and fuel oil prices. As for the U.S. firm of El Paso, which is also negotiating with Algeria, there is a price threshold which the Carter administration has forbidden it to cross....

Nabi: If the Federal authorities with whom we are negotiating want it, they can soon resume the plan to export 10 billion cubic meters of Algerian liquefied natural gas annually to the United States. Must I remind you that the price question was settled with Mexico in 48 hours? As for France, the French gas company is well aware that it has been paying us a ridiculously low price. Without prior consultation, it proposed that we settle the gas price on the basis of $3 per million BTUs. Unilaterally we decided to charge $6.11....

LE MATIN: Are you prepared to relax your position in order to unravel the present situation?

Nabi: Listen: Do we have an energy crisis or not? If we do, that means that people must pay for energy at a price which will enable new reserves to be mobilized. And not sterilized. I would remind you that Algeria launched into the liquefied natural gas business at the end of the sixties. This cost us billions of dollars, since we were "pioneers" in a technology in its infancy. I tell you frankly now that I export gas to honor my country's signature. Liquefied gas production costs us a great deal, and causes us much anxiety, both from the technical viewpoint and from that of foreign personnel assistance. A sacrifice to our commitments it may be, but not on any terms. Oil sales meet our currency needs. And I can reveal to you that Algeria is ready to give liquefied gas production. This is a decision of principle which has been taken clearly at the highest political level.

LE MATIN: Is it reasonable to give up liquefied gas production after the "sacrifices made"? And I should imagine that this does not mean giving up the export of natural gas?

Nabi: I repeat that Algeria is ready, if need be, to stop the liquefied gas venture. We are clearly still prepared to sell natural gas to France and Europe. But not regardless of price. And the gas pipeline solution, such as the one to Italy, seems to us a much more sensible solution. Moreover, the gas-3 liquefaction process is not part of the next 5-year plan.

LE MATIN: The gas pipeline is indeed a solution, except for the Americans....

Nabi: Indeed. But if they want to buy more Algerian gas there is nothing to stop U.S. firms from taking delivery in Spain, for example, where they would be free to liquefy it themselves....

LE MATIN: You are preparing for the trip to At-Ta'if. Is this not essentially to fix new oil prices in Saudi Arabia? Moreover, is there an objective reason to increase crude oil prices? Some people believe that, given the state of the market, the height of the storm--that is, the surge in prices--is over....

Nabi: There are still some clouds on the horizon. Despite the West's economic recession, the energy crisis remains a structural phenomenon. Some people have noted a slight price relaxation. But we are entering a new upward phase in oil consumption. And oil prices, the real ones, are already climbing. Kuwaiti crude is being traded at $35-36 per barrel. Algerian crude finds buyers at $39.

LE MATIN: And Saudi oil remains at $26, which presents an unbridgeable gulf for any attempt at OPEC price reunification?

Nabi: Wrong, none is really being supplied at $26. In reality the Saudi barrel sells at $30-32. As for problems of unification, indeed, of unity, let it be known that OPEC has no such problems. The consuming countries, yes. The At-Ta'if meeting of the long-term strategy committee is going to study questions of price, production, security of supplies, the role of OPEC--is it a complementary or autonomous organization? And, of course, the Third World.

LE MATIN: Is there going to be a new price dance? Has the possibility of price indexing been mentioned?

Nabi: In fact oil prices are going to rise. When and by how much? This is precisely what we are going to discuss and coordinate. Some speak of an "equitable price" for oil. What is it? In times of shortage this idea does not exist. Observe the panic which recently ravaged the gold market. Price increases do not happen by chance. They reflect an economic reality. Now the present political conjuncture gives even greater credence to this economic reality.

LE MATIN: You are referring to the Middle East situation....

Nabi: Of course. The At-Ta'if meeting is all the more important since it occurs at a time when the Gulf region is experiencing fluctuations. Perceptibly so. We deplore anything which causes a major threat to peace. But we cannot influence the course of events. And events give pause for thought....

LE MATIN: Including events in Saudi Arabia?

Nabi: Especially in Saudi Arabia, whose leaders have realized the importance of the destabilization phenomenon which has overtaken the Gulf and are more susceptible to OPEC's claims.

LE MATIN: Are you not afraid of somehow participating in a general deterioration which accentuates the economic imbalances of the consuming countries, both rich and poor?

Nabi: Listen, you have to know what you want. For years oil was sold cheaply. It is often our only resource. The European community, for example, would now like us to index our prices and fix a timetable of increases. The Europeans would like to see into the future. This causes me to make two comments: First, you cannot simultaneously impose the rules of the market, dear to some, and achieve a supranational plan for prices. Second comment: We are not opposed to the principle of indexation, but this must only decide a sort of "guaranteed minimum income" from the price of oil. To answer your question in greater detail, I will remind you that we are concerned with the fate of the Third World countries which cannot buy oil at the new price. We are helping them to "treat" this expensive energy "kindly." As for the problems of the rich countries, we fully appreciate them. We have already said that we favor dialogue in all spheres. But that means that you must take account of current economic realities and set up a genuine north-south dialogue. But certainly not to meet around a green carpet to discuss energy matters while forgetting everything else.

LIBYA

TWO AMERICAN CITIZENS ARRESTED 'FOR SPYING'

LD142138 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2015 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] JANA has learned that the Popular Justice Committee in Tripoli has arrested two Americans for spying.

AL-QADHDHAFI: EGYPT BOYCOTT IS 'INK ON PAPER'

LD150054 Tripoli Voice of the Arab Homeland in Arabic 2200 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] At his meeting this evening with the Central Council of the International Federation of Arab Trade Unions, the leader of the revolution affirmed that Arab resolutions, and this includes the resolutions of the Arab trade unions, are ink on paper. He said: You previously adopted in April 1979 a number of resolutions containing the boycott of the regime of the defeated [As-Sadat] and his companies and vessels and planes and also the boycott of America, but it became apparent later on that you were unable to implement your decisions, which have become ink on paper, which has shown you to be like the rest of the Arab conferences which adopt resolutions which are in effect ink on paper and a deception of the Arab masses.

The leader said that Arab workers up to this hour still receive Egyptian and American planes and provide them with services and supply them with fuel. This in itself is providing services for the enemy because Egyptian planes take off from the suppressed city [Cairo] in the direction of the occupied lands and they return from the enemy airports to the suppressed city and then they fly to Arab capitals. This matter is like opening new veins for the enemy by land, sea and air.

The leader affirmed that the one who provides services for the aviation of the defeated is providing direct services for the enemy because there is no difference between the enemy and the defeated Egyptian regime. The leader explained that Arab workers are still linked to America. This is because they celebrate the day of the Chicago incidents which are called the International Workers Day. He said that the Chicago incidents ended on the day when the workers were no longer hired slaves and that was on 1 September 1978. On that day the workers have been transformed from employees into partners.

In his speech the leader affirmed that workers are still suppressed and they are still employees and they still provide services for the enemy. He gave the workers in Morocco as an example. They had provided direct services for the Israelis. The leader said that the shame which befell the Arab nation is the ultimate shame. This sort of situation cannot be erased except through a popular revolution which burns with its fire this humiliating reality and (?sets it free) of this injustice, exploitation, enslavement and poverty.

The leader concluded his speech by saying: It is regrettable that Libya should be chairman of the International Federation of Arab Trade Unions in the shadow of this humiliating situation, and therefore the Libyan chairman of the federation should resign because it is not an honor for us to be chairman of this federation.

CORRECTIONS TO AL-QADHDHAFI 'PHYSICAL LIQUIDATION' SPEECH

The following corrections should be made to the item entitled "Al-Qadhdhafi: 'Physical Liquidation Is Final Phase'", which was published on pages I 3-5 of the 13 May issue of this DAILY REPORT:

Page I 3, paragraph one, line five should read...economic and social--do not acknowledge that the revolution has succeeded. The counterrevolutionary forces...

Same paragraph, line nine should read...the very beginning. In the course of the stage of the revolutionary transformation...

Paragraph two, from line three should read...liquidation becomes inevitable, physical liquidation becomes the final stage of the process of the revolutionary struggle in order to decisively settle matters. This is what actually happened to the remnants of the defunct royal regime and the defunct exploitation regime now replaced by revolutionary committees. They have been disarmed. They have to smuggle money to Italy, Germany, Britain...

Same paragraph, line five should read...from abroad. They can publish opposition papers an and publish opposition leaflets; they cooperate with...

Same paragraph, from line nine should read...well as Israelis, Americans, Italians and Jews fleeing from Libya, mixed companies which advertise in newspapers. They have now acquired greater efficiency, which they put to use against the people. They have allied...

Same paragraph, line thirteen should read...Qar Yunis University, this slogan appeared and began to be implemented. It is related to Islamic jurisprudence, and is revolutionary, eternal. It can be applied anywhere, at any time. We applied it to some Libyans--...

Same paragraph, from last line should read..revolution abroad. That is a decision to which there is no alternative. [passage indistinct]...

Page I 4, paragraph one, from line fifteen should read...by the enemy. The enemy took away their economic and social weapons, their land, their homes, their farms: these people have now become refugees. But they are...

Paragraph two, line four should read...Palestinian revolutionary forces want the physical liquidation...

Same paragraph, line six should read...degree where this controversy between the Palestinians...

Paragraph three, line two should read...the Israeli enemy. Whenever an Israeli is to be found he must be killed physically eliminated. There is no...

Paragraph four, line one should read...the elections, Carter disregards, sacrifices the workers...

Same paragraph, line two should read...sacrifices the United States, sacrifices one of the world's peoples, bombs any country...

Same paragraph, line three should read...the elections, he deceives the American people...

Same paragraph, line six should read...will sympathize with him and give him their votes. It is just a game. He tried with...

Same paragraph, line eight should read...is fighting terrorism. It is a game, just a game. All this is...

PALESTINIAN-SAHARAN JOINT COMMUNIQUE PRAISES LIBYA

LD130914 Tripoli JANA in English 0827 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] [No dateline received] In their joint communique issued in Tripoli yesterday, the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of the Western Sahara and the secretary general of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command, both hailed the Libyan revolution's support for the liberation movements in the Arab world and particularly the struggle of the Arab people in Palestine and the Western Sahara.

After meeting in Tripoli, the two parties declared their support for decisions of the 4th congress of Steadfastness and Confrontation Front, as these decisions reflect the Arab people's will to struggle against the conspiracies of Zionism, reactionary forces and imperialism. The communique emphasized the importance of continuous coordination between the front and exchange of opinions between the experiences of the two revolutions.

The communique denounced the Moroccan invasion of the Saharan Democratic Arab Republic and called upon the Moroccan revolutionary forces to work for the liberation of Morocco from the tyranny of the monarchy. The communique reaffirmed the importance of confronting the Camp David policies which aim at liquidating the Palestinian revolution.

MOROCCO

HASSAN PROPOSES AMENDMENT ON REGENCY COUNCIL

LD140058 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 13 May 80

[Address to the nation by King Hassan II on 13 May--recorded]

[Excerpts] My dear people, our speech to you is not addressed to any one certain group, nor does it deal with one of those affairs about which we talk to you every now and then. It is a speech which we address to every individual of our people since they form our big family without whose consultation and opinion we do not take an important decision. Also the topic of my speech to you today requires your great interest as it did our extreme attention because of its direct connection with constitutional provisions and stipulations.

We looked closely at every clause of our present constitution before we put it before you to approve it in full and content. After that we kept watch on the functioning of our constitutional establishments taking care of all the stages and steps of democracy at every level and in every field.

We have made up our mind to deal, in the first stage, with a chapter of our constitution, amending it in a manner which does not lack flexibility [word indistinct] from those rules and regulations.

The point in question is Chapter 21, which, as you know, stipulates that the king becomes of age on reaching 18 years of age. Prior to the king becoming of age, the constitution authorizes the Regency Council to exercise the practices of the throne and also its constitutional rights. In addition it stipulates the form of the presidency of the Regency Council and also the number of its members.

In view of what I have said, the amendment which we want seeks:

1. The king will become of age on reaching 16 years of age.

2. The Regency Council will comprise the first chairman of the Supreme Council, the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, the chairman of the Religious Council of Rabat and Sale, and 10 members which the king will appoint at his pleasure.

3. The Regency Council's function will, when the king becomes of age--that is, when he is 16 years of age--be confined to acting as a consultative body by the side of the king until he reaches 20 years of age.

4. The first chairman of the Supreme Council will be the president of the Regency Council.

My dear people, by entrusting the presidency of the Regency Council to the first chairman of the Supreme Council instead of entrusting it--as stipulated in the constitution which we are seeking to amend--to the nearest and oldest male kinsman of the king, we seek to accomplish the following:

1. To strip the Regency Council establishment of a personal nature and to give it--contrary to that--an objective nature which is bound to give it utmost effectiveness.

2. To protect it from probable events which would affect it if it remained tied to the fate of one person in particular, whose appointment is predetermined.

3. To expand the scope of democracy by choosing for the post of the presidency of the Regency Council a citizen who is to carry out great state duties and who is not subject, when chosen, to any consideration regarding his social or family (?status).

4. To manifest the firm ties that link the monarchy as an establishment with the rest of the national group.

Here we must (?point out) that we have discussed this issue with our brother His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Abdullah, and in particular when [words indistinct]. Each of us put his finger on the point of weakness in the old constitution. By this statement I want to remove from the way any wrong comment or any [word indistinct] talk. Each of us belongs to the school of the supreme teacher the late Muhammad V. Each of us has learned to look upon the problem (?objectively) and to make sacrifice [word indistinct].

My dear people, this is the amendment which we want to make regarding Chapter 21 of the constitution. If you endorse it in a referendum, we will put before you at a second stage what we think necessary for amendment. [passage indistinct]

INTERIOR MINISTRY ANNOUNCEMENT ON REFERENDUM

LD140118 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2329 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] We have just received the following communique from the minister of the interior regarding the referendum:

Following the royal speech in which His Majesty King Hassan II submitted to his faithful people a plan for the amendment proposed to be introduced into the kingdom's constitution, the interior minister has the honor to inform the public that the official Gazette No 3523 carried Royal Decree No 271-80-1 dated 9 May 1980. According to the first chapter of this decree, the referendum will be held on Friday, 23 May 1980 on the amendment proposed to be introduced in the constitution regarding Chapter 21 of the constitution. Follows the proposed amendment:

The first and second clauses of Chapter 21 of the constitution will be changed as follows:

Chapter 21: The king will not be regarded as having become of age before reaching 16 years of age. Until he becomes of age, a Regency Council will carry out the duties of the king and exercise his constitutional rights, except those connected with the revision of the constitution. The Regency Council will work as a consultative body by the king's side until the king reaches 20 years of age.

The Regency Council will be chaired by the first chairman of the Supreme Council. In addition to the chairman, the council will be composed of the speaker of the Chamber of Deputies, the chairman of the Religious Regional Council of Rabat and 10 others who will be appointed by the king at his own choice.

Thus, in accordance with the requirements of Law No 80/800 on the organization of referendum, issued as per Royal Decree No 273-80-1 dated 9 May 1980, Moroccan males and females, who registered on the electoral lists prepared on 31 March 1980, and in accordance with the amendments which may be introduced in this connection regarding the requirements stipulated in chapter 13 of royal decree dated 1 September 1959, related to the election of the Jema'ah councils, and Chapter 14 of royal decree dated 15 March 1977, related to the preparation of electoral lists [words indistinct], are invited to vote in the referendum.

It is known that these provisions allow persons who legally have become of age after the preparation of the electoral lists, government officials who have been transferred to other Jema'ah councils after the said date, to be registered in the amended list prepared 5 days prior to the referendum.

For the very time, members of the Royal Armed Forces, the public forces, such as personnel of the national security and the royal gendarmerie as well as the auxiliary forces, and some other groups which were not allowed by law to vote, such as customs officials and forestry guards and prison officers and others, will be allowed to vote. Also members of the Moroccan communities living outside Morocco will be allowed to participate in the referendum.

The "yes" cards will be white, and the "no" cards will be [word indistinct].

The interior minister draws the attention of the electors to the fact that they can obtain as from the date of this communique the voting cards from the offices placed at their disposal for this purpose. This can be done from 0800 till 2000 every day, including (?Saturday) and Sunday.

These cards should be obtained by the electors personally. Those who are unable to obtain their cards during the said period should receive them on the (?day) of the referendum from their offices.

Lastly, the interior minister reminds the citizens that the election campaign will continue until 2359 Thursday, 22 May 1980.

HASSAN ADDRESSES NATION ON CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES

LD141340 Rabat MAP in English 1235 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Rabat, May 14, (MAP)--King Hassan II of Morocco addressed here Tuesday the nation in a broadcast and televised speech. Following is the text of the speech:

"Dear people, Our present speech is not destined to a sole category of citizens. Neither does it deal with issues we used to talk to you about from time to time. Indeed, it is a speech which concerns all the members of the community forming our great Moroccan family that we have to consult each time it is a question of national interest.

"Our speech, today dear people, will certainly arouse in you as it did in ourselves, a great interest, given the direct relations which links it to constitutional dispositions.

"We thoroughly studied all the disposals of our constitution before submitting it for approval. Then we set ourselves to following the functioning of constitutional institutions and to supervising the development of the democratic process at all levels and in all fields.

"In doing this, we sought to be inspired by examples of our past and the teachings of our history. Our deep reflection and our constant concern to look after your well being convinced us of the fact that the safeguard of the nation's major interests derives from our attachment to the principals and foundings which constitute our historical patrimony."

"Thus, we felt it useful, in a first stage, to amend an article of our constitution, an amendment which, though flexible, remains however, in its new content, respectful of the principles and foundings we have just evoked.

"It is question of the Article 21 which stipulates that the king is minor until the age of eighteen and that, during the minority of the king, a Council of Regency exercises the constitutional powers and rights of the crown.

This same article designates on the other hand the chairman of the Regency Council and defines its composition.

The revision we are planning to make, taken into account what is mentioned above, foresees:

1) That the king is major at the age of sixteen.

2) That the Regency Council is composed of the first president of the Supreme Court, the speaker of the House of Representatives the chairman of the Regional Council of Ouleamas of Rabat-Sale and ten personalities designated by the king intuitu personae.

3) That when the king is full of age, in other words the age of sixteen, the Regency Council will operate as a consultative organ to him, until the age of twenty.

4) That the Regency Council is chaired by the first president of the Supreme Court.

"Dear people, In giving the chairmanship of the Regency Council to the first president of the Supreme Court--instead of the closer male relative to the king in the collateral male line, having reached the age of 21, as stipulated by the constitution article which revision is proposed we aim at the following objectives:

1) Remove any personal character from the council as an institution, to confer to it, in return, an objective character susceptible of ensuring to it a total efficiency.

2) Keep this institution away from any intangible factors linked with a citizen who exercises one of the highest offices in the wheels of the government, without considering his social or family origin.

3) Finally, and especially, underline the solid links which unite the monarchy as an institution to the whole of the national community.

In this respect, we must, in a worry of equity, precise that we have discussed this issue with our brother, His Royal Highness Prince Moulay Abdallah, mainly following the two surgical operations he underwent. We were able to find out the weak points of the former dispositions of our constitution.

"Through these words, I insist on avoiding any misinterpretation. Both of us are disciples of the same school, that of the late King Muhammad, may God bless his soul, who taught us to objectively envisage the future and consent, at all time, the necessary sacrifices.

"This is the amendment we propose to make to the Article 21 of the constitution. He will submit to your approval in a coming stage, other amendments to certain articles of the constitution whose revision seems necessary to us."

"The constitution of the kingdom is the supreme law of the state, it forms the framework within which should evolve the laws expressing the nation's will and organizing the relations between the state and the citizens, and those of the citizens among themselves.

"However, although the constitution has this fundamental character, it is fit for evolution and for any revision each time it is necessary, and its content is called to be in concordance with our national authenticity, or with the evolution of our own society in itself or in relation with the international community.

"Dear people, As you know, we have always made proof of ponderation. Each time we are called to take initiatives or announce orientations, we do it only after a deep reflection and after having made the right choice.

"This address which explains the reasons for the constitutional revision that we are proposing, illustrates, if needed, all the solicitude that we have always surrounded you with and that we have always granted to matters concerning you.

Be it a question of constitutional revision or of any other field, we are deeply convinced, dear people, that our common will will always be expressed in a perfect symbiosis.

"You are called, dear people, to vote in your soul and conscience in favor of this amendment, because the proposed revision is not only a revision of a constitution disposition, but it shows in reality that the links uniting us, are those that intimately tie members of the same family.

"May God help us and guide our steps."

BOUABID SEEN COUNTERING ALGERIAN INFLUENCE IN BRAZIL

LD141403 Casablanca LE MATIN in French 10 May 80 pp 1, 5

[Abdelmajid Smaili Rio de Janeiro dispatch: "Mr Bouabid's Visit to Brazil Has Been Positive in Both Political and Economic Spheres"]

[Excerpt] Even though it would be hasty to draw conclusions at this stage from the prime minister's visit to Brazil, it can be said that it has had beneficial and positive results on at least two levels.

First, in the political sphere, Mr Bouabid has filled a considerable gap by explaining Morocco's position and the ins and outs of the tense situation which prevails in northwest Africa, both to Brazilian public opinion and to officials who were conversant with only the viewpoint of the adversaries of our territorial integrity with respect to this problem.

It must be said that our adversaries use in this part of Latin America some traditional levers which mark their policy of blackmail and violation of conscience. For instance, they have held out bright prospects to the Brazilians for contracts involving a very important project, namely, the construction of dams provided for in the Algerian development plan. As for Brazil, whose one of major concerns is energy, since it has to import more than 50 percent of the energy resources it needs, it expects Algeria to discuss the question of oil supplies. However, the Algerians, who are past masters in the art of wielding the carrot and the stick, have been dragging their feet, as shown by the fact that the official visit which the Algerian finance minister was to pay to Brazil has been postponed no less than four times.

In fact, the Brazilian Government voted in favor of the Algerian resolution at the 34th UN General Assembly meeting, but Algeria expects even more from it.

With this end in mind, it has in the past dispensed rather extravagant largesse in support of its harmful and devastating venture. Indeed, a few years ago it entrusted the Brazilians with the task of studying the possibility of exploiting Garat Jebilet iron ore and transporting it by rail to the Mediterranean which, from the economic viewpoint, would be absolute nonsense. However, the survey was paid for to the last cent, even though there was no chance that the project, which has since been shelved, would ever be implemented.

Even on this account only--and this can be said without appearing excessively lauditory--the prime minister's visit has been a success.

As far as the economic sphere is concerned, another point has been scored, since a Moroccan-Brazilian joint commission will soon be created. Its task will be to determine a framework of cooperation between the two countries. A cooperation which will develop slowly but surely.

According to a saying which can be traced back to the 1973 energy crisis, some people have ideas while other people have oil. We have no oil, nor do we use our resources to support either lost causes or hegemonist expansionist, coercive policy.

This accounts for our optimism with respect to the future of Moroccan-Brazilian relations despite any ups and downs, incidents and hatred on the part of those who do not want to see a free, liberal, prosperous and united Morocco.

REPORT ON COMMUNIQUE ON BOUABID VISIT TO BRAZIL

For a report on the communique issued on the official visit of Moroccan Prime Minister Maata Bouabid to Brazil, see page D 1 of the 15 May Latin America DAILY REPORT.

SUDAN

PRESIDENT NUMAYRI APPEALS TO NYERERE ON UGANDA

LD131818 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 May 80

[Excerpt] President of the republic Ja'far Muhammad Numayri yesterday sent a message to Tanzanian President Julius Nyerere, in which he appealed to him to use his wisdom and personal intervention to help restore stability, order and peace in view of the current events in Uganda.

REACTION TO EGYPT'S PRESIDENT AS-SADAT SPEECH

Interior Minister Burg Interview

TA141820 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1705 GMT 14 May 80

[Israeli Interior Minister Dr Yosef Burg interview on evening newsreel, by studio announcer--live via telephone]

[Text] [Question] We are trying to get the chairman of the Israeli autonomy team, Dr Yosef Burg, on the telephone. Good evening, sir. Dr Burg, good evening.

[Answer] Yes.

[Question] We would like to have a little talk with you about your reaction to President as-Sadat's speech. First, when do you expect the autonomy talks to be renewed?

[Answer] I do not think that the Ministerial Committee, which makes the decisions on the issue and ought to be in charge of conducting the negotiations, will be prepared before the Pentecost festival.

[Question] If this is so, is the time not being shortened, which will mean that the target date will not be achieved?

[Answer] The target date was 26 May, and we did not cause this recess. I can say that when we left the Accadia Hotel on Wednesday, 7 May, we had a precise program through 26 May plus when we would meet, who [would meet] and on what issue; both the working groups and the Ministerial Committee. The delay since last Thursday was not caused by us, so neither I nor we are the people to ask about 26 May.

[Question] Dr Burg, concerning what was said in the Egyptian Parliament today by President as-Sadat, do you regard his statements condemning the settlements and supporting Jerusalem as a part of the West Bank as a new line in the Egyptian position in the talks?

[Answer] I do not think today's statements are helpful toward an understanding, but there is nothing new in this, that the Egyptians have a different view concerning the settlements. We have our own opinion and, especially today, Jerusalem Day, 14 May, which is also the day when the state was declared, it is clear that we have a different opinion.

[Question] In conclusion, Dr Burg, will the summit mentioned over the last few hours actually happen? Will it be held?

[Answer] I do not see any summit proposal at this moment. Maybe somebody is talking about this. I will also add that I do not see any benefit if matters are not clarified. The period of personal diplomacy has, in fact, ended. In a democratic country problems are open and decisions are open. So, without preparatory work, I do not see any success or chance of success for a summit at this stage.

[Question] Dr Burg, thank you very much. Good evening.

Newspaper Editorials on Speech

TA150751 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 May 80

[Review of morning press editorials]

[Excerpt] Most newspapers comment on President as-Sadat's speech.

HA'ARETZ says that the decision in principle to resume the talks was portrayed by President as-Sadat as some sort of pressure on Israel. The tone of his remarks was jarring. On the other hand, in spite of the Egyptian president's jarring tones the Israeli Government should realize that the blame for the present stalemate cannot be exclusively put on Egypt. We have also made mistakes. The approach of our delegation to date may have made the Egyptians skeptical about the sincerity of our intentions to grant the Arabs of the territories an autonomy that could be described as full autonomy. The newspaper adds that we will yet hear a more specified description of the Egyptian position. Our government will probably be tempted to issue a public reaction in its wake. However, this method of public declarations is not the most appropriate way to successfully complete the resumed negotiations.

DAVAR writes that it is highly likely that Presidents Carter and as-Sadat are presently sharing a common interest to drag the negotiations on the autonomy until after the U.S. presidential elections. If this is the case, then Israel's interest is exactly the opposite. This lapse has been detrimental to Israel. Thought should be given to these diverse interests and conclusions must be drawn. The Israeli Government should update its position in order not to be left at the mercy of the other parties to the talks. It should make the guidelines used by the ministers in the negotiations on the autonomy more flexible.

HATZOFE says that the resumption of the negotiations requires proper preparations, since there are serious gaps in the positions of the two sides. Next week is not the appropriate time for resuming the talks because of the Pentecost holiday. Israel cannot receive unilateral dictates regarding the suspension and resumption of the talks. Joint preliminary consultations should be conducted to set the date for the resumption of the negotiations.

'AL HAMISHMAR writes that the problem is that the Israeli Government does not yet realize--not only concerning President as-Sadat's speech--that Israel's political position will worsen so long as this foot-dragging goes on. It is clear that even if the United States does not exert its full influence to achieve progress in the negotiations on the eve of the [U.S. presidential] elections, the situation will change after November when the U.S. considerations regarding its status vis-a-vis the Arab world will carry more weight.

HAMODI'A says that by holding on to Carter's appeal to resume the autonomy talks, As-Sadat has definitely managed to save face. This appeal fitted in with Jerusalem's evaluation in the first place. Hence, this proves that the Egyptian president has decided not to tighten the rope by recognizing that even if Israel is interested in continuing the talks, he is more interested. The Egyptian president will have to put up with Israel's objection to any dictate regarding a strict time frame for completing the negotiations.

NEW EGYPTIAN GOVERNMENT, UPCOMING AUTONOMY TALKS REVIEWED

TA151127 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] A new Egyptian government was sworn in this morning by President as-Sadat at the 'Abidin Palace in Cairo. Among the ministers sworn in were two ministers who were recalled from overseas. Their appointments as ministers took them by surprise. Following the swearing-in ceremony President as-Sadat held consultations on the eve of the resumption of the autonomy talks. Our correspondent Ehud Ya'ari reported from Cairo a short while ago.

[Begin Ya'ari recording] Egypt will publish a special announcement this evening at 1800 regarding the resumption of the autonomy talks, as President as-Sadat promised to do yesterday in his speech at the parliament.

The new foreign minister, General Kamal Hasan 'Ali, took off his uniform and stepped somewhat uncomfortably into his suit. He was the one to make this announcement a short while ago at the 'Abadin Palace, at the end of 1-hour-long consultations between President as-Sadat and his senior aides--Mubarak, Ghali, 'Ali and Khalil. 'Ali refused to elaborate on the content of the expected announcement. However, replying to my question he confirmed that he himself would from now on head the Egyptian team to the autonomy negotiations. According to him, no mention has been made about a summit meeting.

Dr Butrus Ghali is now formulating the announcement according to As-Sadat's guidelines and he will be the one to read it out. We have learned from reliable sources that the announcement will include three parts. The first will be a specified clarification of the Egyptian position on issues such as the nature of the Palestinian self-administration, Jerusalem, the settlements and the security issue. At this stage, no new developments are expected on these issues. The second part will be a clarification regarding the new situation to be created--as As-Sadat put it--if no agreement has been reached by 26 May--of course, an agreement will not be reached by 26 May. The third part of the announcement will be a proposal about the continuation of the talks. Regarding this issue, the dates mentioned are immediately after the Pentecost holiday [21 May] or during the first half of June. [end recording]

MA'ARIV URGES CAUTION REGARDING EGYPTIAN INITIATIVES

TA131938 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 13 May 80 p 5

[Shmu'el Segev commentary: "Not Only Following As-Sadat's Order..."]

[Text] All the evaluations and interpretations published in Israel since As-Sadat decided to suspend the autonomy talks have so far failed to mention the role played by the "full partner" to those talks--President Carter--and his influence on the Egyptian president's decision.

Because of our inclination to attribute any sudden development to elements exclusively related to Israel, we frequently distort the situation and cannot conceive of other elements which could have assisted the Egyptian president in formulating his ideas and making his decisions.

As-Sadat's intention to address his people on 14 May is not shocking news. In March Israeli correspondents in Cairo reported that As-Sadat would make two important speeches in May: one on May Day and the second on 14 May, on the occasion of completing the organizational changes in the structure of the ruling party and with the aim of setting a new order of priorities regarding Egyptian internal policies. Even then there were rumors about changes in the government designed to set the country on the road to democratization and socioeconomic progress. The dire economic situation, inter-religious tension and the strengthening of the opposition called for adopting measures to strengthen the regime and curb the criticism leveled against it.

Meanwhile, another important development took place in the Middle East which changed the situation considerably and forced President as-Sadat to "reassess" his international and Middle East policies.

The development in question was the "U.S. fiasco" in Iran and its impact on President Carter's status. The U S. failure to rescue the hostages from the U.S. Embassy compound in Tehran forced President as-Sadat to face several serious questions. Up to the time of the rescue attempt As-Sadat almost certainly assumed that Carter would continue to sit in the White House. Now he must ask himself whether this is a reliable assumption. In any case, the failure in Iran has diminished the U.S. capability to exert pressure on Israel, at least until after the president elections in November. In that case, one can hardly hope to find a speedy breakthrough in the autonomy talks, thus making the target date of 26 May almost irrelevant.

Overnight, this development changed the understanding reached between As-Sadat and Begin in their visit to Washington in April. Before the "Iranian fiasco" As-Sadat was inclined to continue the autonomy talks beyond the target date. However, now he must consider whether he would be better off waiting or encouraging, for instance, a European initiative to amend Security Council Resolution 242. This consideration is called for by the variety of questions being asked in Egypt and other Arab countries regarding President Carter's status and his ability to defeat Republican candidate Ronald Reagan in the elections.

The 10th round of the autonomy talks which ended in Herzliyya last week strengthened, as it were, As-Sadat's pessimistic estimates. It is now clear that in his last visit to Washington the Egyptian President definitely received an "implied promise" from President Carter that the United States would exert its full influence to appoint a security committee on the ministerial level to examine Israel's security problems in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip. In an interview with the Israeli press Egyptian Prime Minister Mustafa Khalil emphasized that he was no expert on security issues. Therefore, Egypt was inclined to appoint experts on its behalf to conduct the military debates. The signal to Israel was clear: If Khalil and Ghali are no experts on security issues then Ministers Burg, Shamir, Tamir and Nisim are no experts either. Therefore, Weizman should be appointed to that post. Israel opted for ignoring the signals and instead had the entire ministerial delegation take part in the deliberations about the security problems in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip.

It would be foolish to make prophecies about As-Sadat's statements on the autonomy issue until after he has made his speech tomorrow. However, even if he does make some dramatic declaration there will hardly be any room for the feeling of self-satisfaction expressed in the Cabinet's announcement this week and the public utterances of Dr Burg and his colleagues.

Ever since he suspended the autonomy talks last week As-Sadat and his Cabinet ministers have kept silent and let the United States and Israel guess their intentions. The same holds true regarding the United States, which has reduced its public reactions and has been reassessing the situation with the assistance of its ambassadors in Tel Aviv and Cairo and Ambassador Sol Linowitz. Only the Israeli Cabinet ministers are competing to show their "public relations" talents.

Regardless of As-Sadat's speech tomorrow the Israeli Government had better dedicate some time to policymaking rather than public relations. Despite the fact that the "time-out" was imposed by the Egyptians there is no need to waste time. The best would be to use this break to reassess the Israeli position. The fact that As-Sadat announced the suspension of the talks does not mean that he can order their resumption. After all, the Camp David accords did not sentence Israel to always be carried away by Egyptian initiatives. Precisely because the talks were stopped at Egypt's initiative, Israel can afford to withhold their resumption until after it has completed its own "reassessment."

AUTONOMY DELEGATION SAYS TALKS NOT TO RESUME UNTIL AFTER 26 MAY

TA141554 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1510 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] [In his speech As-Sadat said] the autonomy talks will only be resumed after 26 May. Our political correspondent Yosi 'Abadi reports that ministers in the Israeli autonomy delegation feel that Israel should participate in the determination of a date for the resumption of the talks, and it cannot respond immediately to any date determined by President as-Sadat.

In view of the Pentecost festival next week, the Israeli delegation will be unable to discuss the autonomy and, therefore, the talks will only be resumed after 26 May.

SHAMIR SAYS EUROPE TO DELAY ACTION ON AUTONOMY TALKS

TA141920 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1900 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The countries of Europe will not adopt any new political initiative while the autonomy talks are still continuing unless the talks fail. This was promised by the foreign ministers of Britain and Italy to Foreign Minister Yitzhaq Shamir in talks he held in London and Rome.

Shamir returned to Israel an hour ago.

CPSU EXTENDS INVITATION TO RAKAH DELEGATION

TA141524 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The Soviet Communist Party has invited a Rakah delegation to come for talks on the situation in our area, in the world in general and the relations between the two parties. The delegation will be headed by MK Me'ir Wilner.

NORWAY TO SUPPLY OIL IN EVENT OF 'SERIOUS CRISIS'

TA141351 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Norway will agree to sell oil to Israel if there is a serious crisis. Norway's minister of commerce said this on his arrival in Israel. He added that in Cairo, the previous stop on his tour, he had spoken about joint development programs between his country, Israel and Egypt, primarily in the field of shipping. The visiting minister further said that Norway had no official relations with the PLO.

NORTH SINAI GOVERNOR DEPOSED ON AS-SADAT'S ORDERS

TA141130 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 May 80 p 1

[By military correspondent Ya'aqov Erez]

[Text] The Egyptian governor of Al-'Arish and northern Sinai, Maj Gen Muhammad Shawqat, and his deputy have been deposed from their posts following President Anwar as-Sadat's orders. According to reports arriving in Israel the two men have been imprisoned.

Major General Shawqat had ministerial status in his post as governor. Earlier he was the head of the Egyptian Army's intelligence services.

It has been learned that Major General Shawqat and his deputy were deposed at the beginning of this week because of the ferment in Al-'Arish and the town's economic crisis. When President as-Sadat visited Al-'Arish on 1 May many inhabitants complained about the incompatibility of the new Egyptian administration headed by Major General Shawqat.

According to another version, the governor and his deputy were deposed on the eve of the changes to which President as-Sadat will refer today, including the performance of the Egyptian governors. Rumors that Major General Shawqat and his deputy have been imprisoned have not yet been confirmed. However, that was the version prevalent at the Ne'ot Sinai terminal yesterday.

Major General Shawqat was a member of the Egyptian military team (headed by former War Minister Muhammad 'Abd al-Ghani al-Jamasi) which conducted the "military talks" with Israel at the beginning of the peace negotiations.

KNESSET SUPPORTS BILL ON JERUSALEM AS CAPITAL

TA141129 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] A gift from the Knesset to Jerusalem on its anniversary. This is how Interior Minister Yosef Burg described the draft basic law proposed by MK Ge'ula Kohen, stating that Jerusalem is the capital of Israel, that itsunity will not be hampered and that the government institutions will be located in it. The entire Knesset--except for the members of SHELLI and HADASH--supported the draft law.

Ge'ula Kohen said that she had intended to anchor the Knesset resolution and the government policy in a basic law.

Minister Burg said that the world knows that Jerusalem is the heart of the matter and a matter of the heart as far as the Jews are concerned. In this context, he said that he had told President Carter that Jerusalem was mentioned 656 times in the Bible, and not even one single time in the Koran. He also said the Cabinet is preparing a "basic law: the state" which will say that unified Jerusalem is the capital.

SECURITY ELEMENTS COMMENT ON JORDAN, SYRIA, EGYPT

TA141737 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 14 May 80 p 2

[By Knesset correspondent Yitzhaq Shor]

[Text] Security elements in Jerusalem yesterday referred to the serious situation created in Syria following the establishment of an Iraqi-Jordanian military front. [paragraph continues]

These circles noted that Jordan has recently received large funds from the rejectionist countries--especially from Algeria--to strengthen its army. A strengthened Jordanian Army could turn into a hard nut in case a war breaks out on Israel's eastern front.

The sources reported that Syria has recently received large deliveries of sophisticated weapons from the Soviet Union. According to the sources, Al-Asad will apparently overcome the internal difficulties in his country and will continue to be Syria's strong man.

The sources reviewed the Egyptian elements who object to the peace agreement and constitute the opposition to As-Sadat. These elements are being encouraged by the PLO. The Knesset Security and Foreign Affairs Committee was also informed about the capture of several terrorist squads in Judaea and Samaria.

SHARON COMMITTEE BANS ILLEGAL CONSTRUCTION ON EXPROPRIATED LAND

TA141703 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 May 80 p 3

[By Dalya Mazori]

[Excerpt] The ministerial committee looking for a solution to the land problem of the settlements in Judaea and Samaria yesterday decided--as its first move--to ban any illegal construction in areas that have been expropriated by the authorities to expand the settlements. The committee also decided to ban the cultivation of expropriated land by Arabs. The ministers made this decision during their tour of the hills surrounding Qiryat Arba'. They realized that dozens of buildings have been erected on these hills recently. Thus, the area allocated for the expansion of Qiryat Arba' has been reduced. According to the inhabitants of Qiryat Arba', these houses were built by poor Arabs with money received from the PLO.

Those on the tour included: Committee Chairman Minister Ari'el Sharon, Justice Minister Shmu'el Tamir, Minister Moshe Nisim, Cabinet legal adviser Prof Yitzhaq Zamir and Mrs Plia'ah Albeq, who is responsible for the location of state land on behalf of the Justice Ministry.

RABBI KAHANA ACCUSED OF FORMING ANTI-ARAB TERRORIST GROUP

TA141217 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The security forces have arrested Rabbi Me'ir Kahana and his friend Barukh Green after having received information that they had established a new armed underground to carry out violent acts against Arabs. They were arrested by virtue of an administrative order issued by the defense minister. The law stipulates that the decree should be brought to the perusal of the president of the district court within 48 hours after it had been issued. The ITIM correspondent says that it looks like this will be done today.

Our correspondent Pinhas 'Inbari says that the security forces obtained information that Qiryat Arba' extremists were planning acts of vengeance against the Arabs of Hebron for the 1929 pogroms and for the terrorist act at the Hadassah building. The security forces also learned that extremists from Qiryat Arba' planned to harm the mayors of Hebron and Halhul if the military government decided to allow them to return.

TERRORIST SQUAD INTERCEPTED, SEARCH IMPLEMENTED IN GALILEE

Three Terrorists Killed

TA150512 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Three terrorists were killed last night in a clash with an IDF patrol near Kibbutz Hanita in the western Galilee. Our forces did not suffer any casualties. This is reported by the IDF spokesman. The statement added that at about 2100 last night an IDF patrol moving on the patrol road east of Hanita ran into a terrorist squad which was trying to penetrate into our territory from Lebanese territory. The three members of the terrorist squad were killed, as said. They had in their possession personal weapons and explosives.

The Popular Front terrorist organization announced in Beirut last night that one of its suicide squads had raided--as the announcement put it--an Israeli Army base at Kibbutz Hanita. The Popular Front said this act was perpetrated in the wake of Israel's decision to declare Jerusalem as its capital.

Roadblocks Set in Western Galilee

TA150550 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Last night the IDF forces erected roadblocks throughout the western Galilee where three terrorists were killed [in a clash with an IDF patrol]. Wide searches were conducted to determine the number of terrorists in the squad.

Further on Killing of Terrorists

TA150630 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0600 GMT 15 May 80

[Excerpt] Our correspondent Dani Nishlis reports that the three members of the terrorist squad were killed immediately upon the discovery of the terrorist squad's infiltration near the border security fence. The squad was discovered immediately upon its infiltration. A brief close combat ensued. It emerged that on their way to Israel the terrorists crossed through the area controlled by the Netherlands UNIFIL unit and Haddad's enclave. They were found to possess Kalashnikov rifles, explosives, leaflets and a Falastin flag. The terrorists apparently intended to occupy a house and take hostages.

From the material found in their possession it emerges that the terrorists intended to demand to be flown to Tehran. The leaflets depicted them as members of the Palestine Liberation Front. It is assumed that they intended to perpetrate their terrorist act on the occasion of 15 May, the day of the declaration of the state of Israel.

PLO FINANCING OF GAZA PROJECTS FURTHER DETAILED

TA141400 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The coordinator of the activities in the territories, Maj Gen Dani Mat, is touring several refugee rehabilitation projects in Gaza and Khan Yunus. Our correspondent Bassam Ja'bar says that Major General Mat's tour today has a special significance in light of reports on PLO attempts to increase its influence in the Gaza Strip by financing refugee rehabilitation. [begin recording]

[Ja'bar] Local Gaza circles told us today that the PLO's attempts to increase its influence among the inhabitants through economic channels have been going on for several months. One of the Gaza notables, Ibrahim Abu Sita, has even brought the military governor of the Gaza Strip a detailed plan for the rehabilitation of refugees in the Gaza Strip, funded mainly by money from abroad--namely, funds from the joint Jordan-PLO committee. Today we learned that Abu Sita has at his disposal about 70 million Israeli pounds--deposited in banks abroad--for various purposes, including rehabilitation. However, he did not receive permission to bring the money into the Gaza Strip.

Yesterday, at a meeting with military correspondents, the military governor of the Gaza Strip, Brig Gen Yitzhaq Segev, confirmed that the PLO has indeed been trying to infiltrate economic spheres such as marketing agricultural produce and even refugee rehabilitation. We asked the coordinator of the activities in the territories, Maj Gen Dani Mat, today, how he views the PLO's attempts:

[Mat] There is no point commenting on what was said yesterday. Each project submitted to us by an urban element is examined individually and the approval or disapproval is then made accordingly.

[Ja'bar] If the PLO is the financer, what is the attitude? Major General Mat refused to answer this question. He got angry at our other questions and terminated the interview. [end recording]

JERUSALEM MAYOR ON TERRITORIAL COMPROMISE, PALESTINIAN STATE

TA142037 Jerusalem Domestic Television Service in Hebrew 1935 GMT 14 May 80

[Interview with Jerusalem Mayor Teddy Kollek by correspondents Menashe Raz, Mikha Limor and Tuvya Sa'ar in the framework of the weekly Moqed program--live in the studio]

[Excerpt] [Sa'ar] I will give you the chance to answer a question which I don't know if you have been asked. At any rate, we do not know what answer you will give. What is your conception of the future of Judaea and Samaria and what are your views of Israel's future borders?

[Kollek] Well, you know my answer. There is a clear division of labor between the government and us [in the municipality]. They determine the big policy and we pick up the garbage. And we both think that the other is doing a lousy job.

[Sa'ar] What is your view as citizen Kollek?

[Kollek] A day after we first went to the Wailing Wall [after the 1967 war], we went with Ben-Gurion, 'Ezer Weizman, a group from France and a group which had come from England. They all came to my place to have lunch and we discussed this. Then Ben-Gurion said that he thinks that the Arabs will not make peace. All the others said that now the Arabs have learned a lesson and now they will sue for peace. He was the only one to say that the Arabs cannot make peace. But he also said then that he proposes returning everything except Jerusalem. Since then we have learned that there are security problems and we have to maintain certain security borders. There is one thing of which I am sure. I think that 1 million Arabs within the country weaken us more, and this is more dangerous than bad borders.

[Sa'ar] Are you referring to a territorial compromise, Mr Kollek?

[Kollek] To a far-reaching territorial compromise.

[Sa'ar] With Jordan? With a Palestinian state?

[Kollek] Who knows? I think that if we say Jordan, this can, to a large extent, be an illusion. Who can promise that Jordan will remain Jordan for the next 10 or 20 years? Today you can make a compromise with Jordan. If they agree--and the more we talk about it the less Jordan can move toward meeting us; there is usually too much talk on this issue--in the end you will pull aside the curtain to find someone else standing behind Jordan.

[Sa'ar] I want to understand, are you implying: Why deceive ourselves, lets go straight to negotiating over a Palestinian state?

[Kollek] I am not the foreign minister. What do you want of me? I only have general views on this issue. I might have had ambitions of being foreign minister 10 years ago--no I didn't--I would go into this in detail. For the time being let us suffice with general views.

[Limor] I'll tell you why I won't make do. This morning you said that the Arab inhabitants of Jerusalem are the same people and of the same culture as the inhabitants of the West Bank. And, therefore, the fate of Judaea and Samaria is of direct relevance to Jerusalem.

[Kollek] Of course, and you can't find a solution for Jerusalem as long as we don't know what the solution for Judaea and Samaria is.

[Limor] We would really like to know if you are referring to a Palestinian state.

[Kollek] In today's conditions in which a Palestinian state is a PLO state--under no circumstances.

[Limor] So under other conditions this is possible?

[Kollek] For example, I think that 12 years ago it was possible, and I cannot know what the situation will be in another 12 years.

NABULUS MAYOR SAYS COEXISTENCE POSSIBLE

TA141114 Jerusalem POST in English 14 May 80 pp 1, 2

[By David Richardson]

[Excerpt] Nabulus--The military government yesterday closed this town to journalists and barred Mayor Bassam ash-Shak'ah from holding a press conference he had called to protest "the coercive measures in the area, especially in those zones under curfew."

The military government also warned other mayors to concern themselves only with municipal affairs and not to talk to journalists.

In their first action since the curfew was placed on Hebron following the Hadassah building terrorist attack and the deportation of the town's mayor, Fahd al-Qawasimi, the municipal council issued a statement reaffirming opposition to the Camp David autonomy proposals and acceptance of PLO leadership. They also confirmed that Deputy Mayor Mustafa an-Natshah would carry out Al-Qawasimi's duties "until his return."

Ash-Shak'ah told journalists during a brief meeting in his office that Defense Minister 'Ezer Weizman had not yet replied to telegrams from the Nabulus municipality asking for permission to send supplies to areas under curfew.

Asked if he was afraid of being deported, Ash-Shak'ah--who faced deportation proceedings last year--said: "I am afraid and anxious about coexistence between the two peoples in the area rather than about my own safety."

In a more moderate tone than that usually attributed to the outspoken mayor--who is rumoured to be the unofficial chairman of the radical National Guidance Committee--Ash-Shak'ah said he saw this coexistence as possible when Israel recognized the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and agreed to the creation of an independent Palestinian state under the PLO.

Pressed to say whether this policy of a Palestinian state coexisting with Israel was a departure from the official PLO line, Ash-Shak'ah acknowledged that it was.

PETITION SUBMITTED TO HIGH COURT FOR RETURN OF DEPORTEES

TA141159 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1100 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] An appeal against the defense minister and the commander of Judaea and Samaria has been submitted to the High Court of Justice on the expulsion of the three Hebron Hills leaders. The plaintiffs--the wives of the Hebron and Halhul mayors and a relative of the Hebron Qadi--request that the defense minister and the commander of Judaea and Samaria explain why they will not repeal the expulsion orders at once and why they refuse to allow the deportees to return home immediately.

ARAB LANDOWNERS APPEAL SEIZURE OF LAND FOR SETTLERS

TA120831 Jerusalem POST in English 12 May 80 p 2

[By David Richardson]

[Text] The Justice Ministry and military government legal advisers are currently dealing with at least three appeals against land seizures on the West Bank, one of which is particularly problematic, the Jerusalem POST has learned.

Justice Ministry officials have been holding intense discussions over the past 2 weeks to prepare their reply to a petition by 26 landowners from the village of Bayt Immar who are contesting the closure of land they claim is theirs for the settlement of Migdal 'Oz.

Earlier this year it was reported that the settlers had refused to comply with a military government request that they voluntarily vacate a 30-dunam tract of land which was apparently given to them "by mistake." They say they have already planted trees in the area.

Another case currently before the high court of justice is a petition by 21 villagers from Al-Khidr, near Bethlehem, against the defense minister and the local military governors. It calls on them to cease fencing off some 700 dunams of land the villagers lay claim to. The villagers maintain the earthworks have already commenced in the area. They fear they will be used for a civilian settlement which has not yet been named.

In Hebron, a military review board is currently considering a petition referred to it by the High Court of Justice regarding land on Giv'at Harharsina, adjacent to Qiryat Arba'. [paragraph continues]

Local landowners, among them members of the prominent Ja'bari clan, are contesting attempts to expand the Jewish suburb in that (or any) direction.

All three of the petitions were presented by Attorney Felicia Langer.

COURT SENTENCES THREE TERRORISTS TO LIFE IMPRISONMENT

TA141231 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1200 GMT 14 May 80

[Excerpt] Today the Tel Aviv district court sentenced three terrorists to life imprisonment: the head of a terrorist squad from Ramallah, Jamal Yasin, and two female accomplices, Nada at-(Tiyyat) and (Hannan Masih). Another female terrorist, ('Ataf) Yusuf, was sentenced to 20 years imprisonment. This squad is responsible for 9 cases of terrorist acts in which 6 people were killed and 130 wounded. Most of the incidents took place in Jerusalem.

STATISTICS BUREAU CALLS 1979 'NOT COMPLIMENTARY' TO ECONOMY

TA131604 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1105 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] It appears that in 1979 salaries doubled, subsidies decreased and the GNP rose by the relatively large rate of 5 percent. There was a similar growth in private consumption. This updated data is brought by our correspondent on economic affairs Gid'on Zelinger:

[Begin recording] The national balance of payment is the balance between consumption, expenditure, exports, imports, salaries and prices. Everything that happened in the Israeli economy in 1979 appears in more than 30 tables of figures compiled by the Central Bureau of Statistics. Let us begin with consumption: In fixed prices, the demand increased by 6 percent. The consumption per capita rose by 3 percent and was 12 percent higher than the similar rate on the eve of the Yom Kippur war. The average growth in the last 6 years was 2 percent per year.

In 1979 exports grew, in real terms, by 3 percent; there was a freeze in imports. This is a slight improvement in the balance of payments.

There was a marked increase in investments in immovable assets: 11 percent. This growth results from the reawakening of the construction momentum, which has been dormant for a year. Industrial investments rose by 7 percent.

The gross national product rose, in fixed prices, by 5 percent, similar to the rate in 1978, following limited rises of 2 years per annum in the last 3 years. The growth is now most noticeable in industrial production, whereas there was stability in the building and agriculture areas and in public services--a 4-percent growth rate.

Last year, 1979, was a year of galloping inflation. Prices rose, on the average, by 76 percent, but salaries also rose accordingly. The growth in income tax collection was similar.

The Central Bureau of Statistics sums up a year which is not complimentary to the Israeli economy. [end recording]

UN CONFERENCE ON INTER-AFRICAN TECHNICAL COOPERATION OPENS

LD121132 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 0400 GMT 12 May 80 EA

[Text] A UNDP program conference on technicla cooperation among African countries opens in Nairobi today.

The OAU assistant secretary general, Mr Paul Etiang, who jetted into Mairobi yesterday for the conference, explained that the African body wanted member states to cooperate in the deployment of human resources. Mr Etiang, who is heading a four-man delegation to the conference, said the conference is a most appropriate forum for examining the promotion and deployment of African specialists by African states.

He said the conference is in response to a convention signed in Kampala, Uganda, in 1975 and ratified at the recent OAU economic summit in Lagos, Nigeria. Mr Etiang said the OAU was convinced that contacts between experts of African countries will reinforce mutual understanding between the peoples of Africa and contribute to the attainment of African unity.

He further said that the conference would foster a unified African stand at the conference on technical cooperation among all developing countries, due to open in Geneva later this month.

ETHIOPIA

COUNTERREVOLUTIONARIES RETURN FROM DESERT, SURRENDER

LD141226 Addis Ababa Domestic Service in English 1015 GMT 14 May 80 EA

[Text] Twenty-two persons who had worked as EPRP [Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Party] operatives gave themselves up recently in (Wat) Province of Wollo region after wandering aimlessly in the desert for a number of years.

They include two health officers, one nurse and a former chairman of the Jimma teachers association. Some among the group said that they had operated for the EPRP as zone leaders, cadres and commissars to undermine the revolution.

Addressing the group at the Wollo administrative office, the regional administrator, Comrade Lt Col Nadew Zekarias, commended them for taking the right decision in joining the revolution. The returnees will be given further ideological orientation by cadres in the region.

KENYA

PRESIDENT URGES UGANDAN LEADERS TO ENSURE STABILITY

LD141447 Nairobi Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The president, Mr Daniel Arap Moi, today expressed his wish that leaders in Uganda would get together and formulate a policy conducive to a government that would ensure stability and security in that country. The president expressed the wish at state lodge, Eldoret, after receiving a message from Tanzania's president, Julius Nyerere. The message was conveyed to him by the Tanzanian foreign minister, Mr Ben Mkapa.

SOMALIA

SOMALI FRONT REPORTS BATTLE SUCCESS AGAINST ETHIOPIANS

LD141146 (Clandestine) Voice of Western Somali and Abo Liberation Fronts in Somali to Western Somalia 0930 GMT 14 May 80 EA

[Text] The Western Somali Liberation Front [WSLF] freedom fighters and the dispirited soldiers of the Addis Ababa regime were recently involved in a bitter clash near (Dagahleh). The WSLF freedom fighters inflicted heavy losses on the enemy in terms of life and material. The freedom fighters killed 83 soldiers and wounded many others. During the battle, the freedom fighters destroyed one T-55 tank, one truck and one rocket. The freedom fighters lost 18 heroes. The WSLF recently intensified its operations against the enemy.

UGANDA

POLITICAL PARTIES APPROVE BINAISA'S REMOVAL

LD142018 Dar es Salaam Domestic in Swahili 1900 GMT 14 May 80 EA

[Text] Dar es Salaam--Two Ugandan political parties, the Democratic Party and the Uganda People's Congress, have supported the action taken by the Military Commission in removing President Godfrey Binaisa and his government from power.

The chairman of the Military Commission in Uganda, Ndugu Paulo Muwanga, this evening told the Tanzania News Agency that the commission today met representatives of the two parties which commended the commission for removing President Binaisa from power.

In an interview [word indistinct], Ndugu Muwanga, who was speaking from his home in Kampala, said the military commission met today for 7 hours to discuss security and other issues connected with the leadership of Uganda.

Ndugu Muwanga said that since Binaisa's removal from power the security situation in Uganda has continued to improve. At present the situation is calm.

He said the military commission also discussed matters concerning the former president and his ministers. Ndugu Muwanga added that Binaisa was at present temporarily living at State House, Entebbe, awaiting the commission's final decision on his fate.

MILITARY COMMISSION FORMING UNLF CABINET

LD141834 Kampala Domestic Service in English 1712 GMT 14 May 80 EA

[Text] An announcement: The Military Commission wishes to announce that it is completing the process of forming a new Uganda National Liberation Front cabinet, which will be announced in due course. Meanwhile, all public servants are requested to report without fail to their stations of duty.

At the same time, the Military Commission will meet all permanent secretaries and heads of parastatal organizations tomorrow at 1200 GMT at the international conference center.

CHAD

OPPOSING SIDES CONSIDER INITIATIVE FOR CEASE-FIRE

Apparent Rejection by Goukouni

AB140950 Paris AFP in English 0906 GMT 14 May 80

[By Marc Pondaven]

[Text] Ndjamena, 14 May (AFP)--President Goukouni Oueddei appears to have rejected a peace initiative calling for a cease-fire, an emergency conference and an African buffer force to end the civil war in Chad.

The Chadian news agency, which reflects Mr Goukouni's views, reported yesterday that only a military solution could bring back peace, after nearly two months of fighting pitting the president's forces and their allies against the army of Hissein Habre.

The agency said that the peace plan, drawn up by Chadian officials in refuge in Cameroon across the Chari River from Ndjamena, would, by bringing in an African force, deepen the antagonisms by developing tribalism, regionalism and clan consciousness.

The agency said that for the survival of our people, the lebanization of Chad had to be avoided--a reference to the multiple divisions among Christians and Moslems in Lebanon, where U.N. peace-keeping troops are present.

The report indicated that Mr Goukouni's position had hardened from Monday, when the agency said that the evolution of the current situation and a certain realism commanded a new meeting among Chadians to develop the Lagos agreement of last August. The agreement among the major armed parties in Chad permitted the creation of Mr Goukouni's transitional unity government that now appears to have been wrecked by the fighting.

The fighting was at an ebb yesterday in Ndjamena, with only a few clashes between Mr Goukouni's forces and those of Mr Habre, who was fired last month from his post as defense minister by a cabinet decision that he protests.

Meanwhile, it was learned that the remaining white civilians in Ndjamena--40 French embassy personnel, civilian aid workers and catholic clergy--were to leave tomorrow in anticipation of the withdrawal of the French garrison. The 1,100 soldiers are expected to leave on Saturday.

This would leave about 220 whites in Chad, as against about 7,000 before the fighting broke out on March 21. There are still about 200 French people in Moundou, the main city in the south of Chad, and about 20 missionaries in central Chad and at Abeche, near the Sudan border.

The French Embassy and aid mission are withdrawing to Cameroon for the time being, and a consular service is to be set up at Moundou.

FAN Reservations on Initiative

AB141330 Paris AFP in French 1112 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Paris 14 May (AFP)--The Armed Forces of the North (FAN) are ready, as it has always been, for a peaceful solution proposed by the OAU, but on condition that this proposal does not exclude any of the factions and does not favor any hidden or overt separatism, states a communique sent to the press in Paris on Wednesday.

Mr Michel Proud, the deputy commissioner for information of the FAN, led by the former minister of defense, Mr Hissein Habre, delivered the communique in Paris on Wednesday just before his departure for the Chadian capital where the FAN and a coalition of many factions led by Mr Goukouni Oueddei, president of the Chadian Transitional National Union Government, have been fighting since 21 March.

According to the communique, the FAN reaffirms that the unnatural coalition led by Goukouni does not alone embody legality in Chad. The FAN recognizes the decision of the French Government to withdraw its troops, appreciates the humanitarian aid that France has given to the Chadian population, both civilians and forces of the two parties and notes that this departure puts Africa face to face with her responsibilities.

Concerning the withdrawal of the French troops from the Chadian capital, the FAN regrets that it was not discussed with all the factions, since according to the Lagos accords, the withdrawal should be decided by the council of ministers.

The FAN also formally denies allegations that it receives direct or indirect aid from France or from any country whatsoever. It points out that the neutrality of France has not been in their favor but to the benefit of the coalition, as they receive aid from France, are allowed to cross the Chari and can travel abroad on French helicopters or planes, which are denied the FAN.

ZAIRE

ANGOLAN DELEGATION ARRIVES TO DISCUSS COOPERATION

AB131415 Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] A delegation of the People's Republic of Angola led by Comrade (Muti Kalango) arrived this morning in the Zairian capital of Kinshasa to discuss bilateral cooperation. The delegation included representatives of the Ministries of Transport and Communications, Foreign Trade and External Relations.

Before leaving, Comrade (Muti Kalango) told the ANGOLAN NEWS AGENCY, ANGOP, that the signing of the (?transport) agreement between Angola and Zaire [words indistinct] cooperation between the two countries. He did not, however, confirm the signing of such an agreement.

ADB VICE PRESIDENT RECEIVED BY FIRST STATE COMMISSIONER

AB141230 Kinshasa AZAP in French 1109 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Kinshasa, 14 May (AZAP)--This morning, the first state commissioner, Citizen Boliko Lokonga received, in his office, Mr Augustin Frederic Kodock, vice president in charge of finance of the African Development Bank, ADB, who discussed the bank's concerns on the eve of its general assembly scheduled for 23-27 June in Abidjan.

Mr Kodock, who arrived in Kinshasa on Monday, met with Citizen Namwisi Ma Koy, state commissioner for finance and budget, and ADB governor for Zaire, concerning present and future activities of the bank, especially the preparatory activities for the upcoming general assembly of this financial institution.

The ADS general assembly will bring together all African governors, namely, the finance ministers of member states (48 states) who will have to elect a new president whose mandate will last the next 5 years and to approve the progress report of the financial institution. Mr Gondwe, a Malawian, is the current acting president of the institution until June.

Speaking of the relations between Zaire and ADB, Mr Kodock stated that Zaire is one of the biggest subscribers to the bank's capital and also indicated that Zaire owns a certain number of shares which gives the country voting rights of no less than 4 percent.

Mr Kodock is scheduled to leave Kinshasa late in the morning today for Cameroon where he will undertake a mission similar to the one he undertook in Zaire.

The state commissioner for finance, Citizen Namwisi Ma Koy took part in talks between the first state commissioner and ADB vice president in charge of finance.

BRIEFS

FRANCE-CONGO TECHNICAL CONVENTION--Four technical conventions were signed yesterday between France and the People's Republic of Congo at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation. Mr Andre Arnaud, the ambassador of France, signed for his country while Comrade Oscar Samba, secretary general at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation represented the Congolese side. Two of the four conventions cover draft conventions for the financing of planting Eucalyptus in the region of Pointe Noire at a cost of 165 million cfa francs and the establishment of a pilot scheme of afforestation in Limba at a cost of 90 million cfa francs. The third convention which covers the production and distribution of electricity in the southern part of Congo, also costs 90 million cfa francs. Finally, the fourth convention is a protocol accord concerning the organization of a seminar on railway administration in Pointe Noire from 21 to 24 May. [Brazzaville BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French (publication of Agence Congolais d'Information) 19 Apr 80 p 8]

CONGO-USSR CONTRACT--A ceremony at which a contract was signed for the supply of equipment to the national printing press of Congo and the training of three printing specialists took place Saturday at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The Soviet and Congolese sides were represented respectively by the Soviet ambassador to Congo, Comrade Serguei Kouznetsov and the secretary general of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Comrade Oscar Samba. [Brazzaville BULLETIN QUOTIDIEN in French (publication of Agence Congolais d'Information) 7 Apr 80 p 1]

ICAO AID TO ZAIRE--The International Civil Aviation Organization is to finance training programs at the Department of Transport and Communications. It will contribute 5,491,730 dollars towards the development of a training center for civil aviation flying personnel. The ICAO will also grant scholarships to the Department of Transport and Communications for the training of civil aviation junior and senior officers. ICAO will contribute 802,195 dollars in addition to Zaire's contribution of 114,420 zaires for this project. Under the agreement, Zaire will be provided with qualified personnel in the different fields of civil aviation to insure the training of her officers. [Kinshasa AZAP in French 1435 GMT 8 May 80 AB]

GHANA

UK FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL MEETS VICE PRESIDENT

AB121451 Accra Domestic Service in English 1400 GMT 12 May 80

[Text] The British under secretary of state at the Foreign and Commonwealth Office, Mr Richard Lewis, who is on a 3-day visit to Ghana, today held discussions with the vice president, Dr de Graft Johnson, at the castle, Osu. Mr Lewis told the vice president that he is in the country to discuss ways and means of strengthening the cordial relations between the two countries. He said he would take the opportunity to visit British Government aid projects in Ghana and also visit the rural areas to see the life of the rural people. Mr Lewis said the visit is not only his first, but also the first to be made to Ghana by a conservative minister for a very long time, as well as the first since the change-over to civilian rule.

Welcoming Mr Lewis, the vice president hoped that enough arrangement has been made to enable him to get to know what is happening in the country. Both men later held private discussions. Mr Lewis had earlier called on the minister of foreign affairs, Dr Chinebuah, and the minister of finance and economic planning, Dr Amon Nikoi, for discussions on bilateral issues.

LIMANN LAUNCHES FIRST PHASE OF AGRICULTURAL PROGRAM

AB141955 Accra Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The first phase of the government's intensive 2-year agricultural program, code named the New Deal, was launched at a colorful ceremony at Oyarifa, on the Accra-Aburi road today. Launching the program, the president, Dr Limann, repeated that the agricultural policy option is the cornerstone on which the government's short, medium and long-term development policy will revolve. This, he adds, is the key to the country's economic recovery as well as long-term national prosperity and dignity.

Dr Limann announced that a comprehensive agricultural program with production targets which concentrate on food production has been prepared. The details, with strategies for its implementation, will be outlined throughout the regions by the minister of agriculture and other ministers of state.

He said under the new agricultural policy, food crops and livestock will receive maximum attention and increasing financial support within the scarce resources available to the government. The food crops are cereals, root and starchy crops, legumes and beans, vegetables and livestock.

President Limann stressed that in addition to the production of such traditional crops as cocoa and coffee, sunflower and soybean production will also be greatly encouraged and intensified for their domestic and export potentials. The president said the government is greatly concerned about post-harvest losses throughout the country; and to minimize such losses, the Ministry of Agriculture has been instructed to erect storage structures equipped with preservation facilities in food producing areas.

In the case of easily perishable commodities such as tomatoes, the canning factories at Pualugu and Wenchi will be vigorously encouraged to embark on large-scale processing.

Dr Limann said that he has personally observed since 1975 that state fishing corporation and meat marketing board deep freezer vans are being used in carting charcoal. He ordered that this strange practice should cease forthwith and the vans rehabilitated and reverted to their proper functions of carting perishable food items such as meat, fish and tomatoes. He called on the public to help enforce this directive.

Dr Limann said every effort will be made to provide the inputs needed to boost the production of food crops at reasonable prices. He said that such inputs should not be resold, as has been the case in the past. It should be devoted to or applied strictly to their proper use. He disclosed that already, as a modest beginning, some inputs have since January been sold and distributed to farmers and fishermen at controlled prices. These included 300,000 cutlasses, 30,000 hoes, over 1,000 outboard motors and some 5,000 maxi bags of feed rice. Others are 5,000 maxi bags of field groundnuts, 20,000 bags of fertilizers and 20,000 tons of fertilizers which have also arrived for additional distribution. He called on all Ghanians to support the program.

Dr Limann stressed that Africa is now engaged in a new crusade for economic emancipation, eventual creation of an African common market and an economic community. Ghana can therefore become a pace-setter again in this field.

The slogan of this action program for agricultural development is: Grow more food for the people.

GUINEA

SEKOU TOURE BRIEFS OFFICIALS ON RECENT TRAVELS

AB131053 Conakry Domestic Service in French 2200 GMT 12 May 80

[Excerpt] An information session of the regional council of the revolution of Conakry was held on Monday 12 April 1980 [words indistinct] till 1930 under the high chairmanship of the supreme leader of the revolution, Comrade Ahmed Sekou Toure, in the conference hall of the Palace of Congress. Participants in the meeting were members of the Central Committee, members of the government, officials of local revolutionary bodies and [words indistinct].

The party-state national leadership took stock first of the first OAU economic summit. The head of state expressed satisfaction over the outcome of working sessions, which brought about the adoption of a fundamental document on the economic integration of the African Continent. The party-state cadres (?under the guidance of the secretary general of the party), thoroughly analyzed this document of the first OAU conference on economic development of the continent. In conclusion, the head of state stated that the Lagos summit [words indistinct].

The head of state also (?took part) on 27, 28 and 29 April in Lome, Togo, in the ECOWAS [Economic Community of West African States] heads of state summit before leaving for a state visit to the People's Republic of China. President Sekou Toure said his visit to China was excellent and he commended the interest shown by the Chinese leaders in Guinea.

On his stay in Belgrade, Yugoslavia, on the occasion of the funeral of President Josip Broz Tito, an event which cut short his visit to China and led him to cancel subsequent activities that had originally been planned, the supreme leader of the revolution, who led our delegation to the funeral, first requested a minute of silence in memory of the great Yugoslav leader. [passage indistinct].

On the talks he held with his counterparts, President Sekou Toure said that he proposed that the nonaligned countries should meet in order to find adequate solutions for the current international situation. To that end, a committee was set up which includes such countries as India, Zambia, Tanzania and Guinea [words indistinct]. The Yugoslav visit has proved that country's influence over the world, the political and ideological unity of the (?Yugoslav) people and last the affirmation of a unique desire to convince everyone of the serenity of the Yugoslav regime.

Concerning his stopovers--that in Bucharest, where the welcome given to him went beyond that for a simple stopover and rather resembled that for a state visit; or that of Jiddah where the officials delayed the Friday prayer in order to welcome the Guinean delegation--the secretary general of the PDG expressed his happiness at the growing influence of the Guinean revolution and affirmed that all these marks of esteem, respect and cooperation make certain demands of the revolutionary people of Guinea.

LIBERIA

LIBERIAN COUNTERCOUP ATTEMPT REPORTEDLY FOILED

OW141949 Paris AFP in English 1942 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Monrovia, May 14 (AFP)--A countercoup against the regime of Master Sergeant Samuel Doe was foiled here today, informed sources said, and a number of army officers were detained for questioning.

But Army Commander General Thomas Quiwonkpa would not comment on the reports, saying only that the People's Redemption Council that seized power from the late President William Tolbert last April 12 would make an official statement tomorrow (Thursday).

Unconfirmed reports said there had been an attempt on the life of Sgt Doe. Other reports said that there were incidents last night at the head of state's residence, but that there was no bloodshed. Monrovia was calm today, but Sgt Doe's residence was under heavy guard and soldiers were diverting traffic well before the regular curfew at 2300 local.

NO ONE ALLOWED TO PASS EXECUTIVE MANSION AFTER 1900

AB141817 Monrovia Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] By orders of the battalion commander, executive mansion guard command, effective immediately, no one is allowed to pass through the front of the executive mansion after 1900. I repeat: By orders of the battalion commander, executive mansion guard command, effective immediately, no one is allowed to pass through the front of the executive mansion after 1900. In the cause of the people, the struggle continues. And this is signed by Corp John (Tudey), (L&G) Brigade and approved by M.P. (Chili), Colonel, (L&G) Brigade.

ARMY COMMANDER TELLS SOLDIERS TO STOP INTIMIDATION

AB141828 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1755 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] The commanding general of the armed forces of Liberia, Brig Gen Thomas Quiwonkpa, has called on soldiers and other security personnel to stop intimidating and molesting the lives and property of citizens. Commanding General Quiwonkpa reminded the military and security personnel that the purpose of the April 12 coup is not to oppress but to emancipate the Liberian people from political and economic exploitation which they long suffered at the hands of the selfish and privileged few of the past administration. Brigadier General Quiwonkpa was speaking at the Mine Management Associates Limited in Kongo and Bonga, Cape Mount County, when he visited the areas on the sixth leg of his nationwide tour. He told security officers that protecting the interests of the citizens was now the biggest priority of the People's Redemption Council government.

Earlier, the commanding general inspected the Lofa Bridge at Mano River, which he noted to be in a deplorable condition.

TRIBUNAL HEARS TESTIMONY OF FORMER COUNTY SUPERINTENDENT

AB131540 Monrovia Radio Elwa in English 1500 GMT 13 May 80

[Excerpts] The special military tribunal trying former officials of the deposed Tolbert government in Monrovia continued sitting today with former Nimba County Superintendent J. (Foster Dumbar) appearing. (Dumbar) is reported to have described the president of Liberia as the most powerful president in the world. He agreed that those responsible for decision making had flagrantly mismanaged the affairs of the state in a manner inconsistent with the constitution and statutory laws of Liberia to the detriment of the masses of the Liberian people. For that matter, (Dumbar) said, the president of Liberia was the most powerful president in the world, adding: Whenever we heard something and asked the legislators, they said the president said so. Even we the superintendents, the former Nimba County superintendent continued, could not make decisions at the lower level except we ask the advice of the president. We were, therefore, not decision makers but mere interpreters.

NIGER

KOUNTCHE RETURNS, COMMENTS ON NICE SUMMIT

AB132245 Niamey Domestic Service in French 1900 GMT 13 May 80

[Text] The head of state, Col Seyni Kountche, returned to Niamey this afternoon after participating in the Franco-African summit in Nice and his private visit to France. On his way home, the head of state made a brief stopover in Algiers, where he held talks with the Algerian President Chadli Bendjedid.

On his arrival in Niamey, President Seyni Kountche was welcomed by the interim head of state, Moussa Tondi, minister of finance; and by Major (Oussegou), chief of defense staff of the national armed forces. After the usual welcoming ceremony by the members of the Supreme Military Council, the members of the government, diplomatic corps and the constituted authorities, the head of state received the national press to report on the seventh Franco-African summit that had just ended in Nice: [begin recording]:

[Kountche] We can say that this seventh Franco-African summit (?again tackled) the enormous problems raised at the economic summit held recently in Lagos [word indistinct], which takes place on the eve of the extraordinary session of the United Nations devoted to the problems of development. The topics discussed at this summit centered not only around development but also on the world economic outlook, including the strategy to be adopted to face this period of anxiety and [word indistinct].

Among the several subjects discussed in Nice was the North-South dialogue, for which a sector by sector approach was recommended; racial discrimination; the world food situation; the energy crisis; and [words indistinct]. Then, there was also the problem of the worsening world economic situation, which has had a directly adverse effect on the economies of developing countries. The result of the deteriorating world economic situation will be the slowing down of investments in our country, sharply lower prices paid for our primary products and, of course, the deterioration in the energy situation.

On the question of Franco-African cooperation, emphasis was laid on the aid given by France to several Sahel countries, research in the development of rural energy, which means the development of solar energy, the need for training personnel. [passage indistinct]

[Unidentified reporter] During your stay in France, Mr President, you met the authorities of (Francine Comon) and the representative of (Afripelec) and held discussions on the future (Kandadie) Dam. What precisely, Mr President, is the situation on this project?

[Kountche] Of course I insisted on seeing the authorities of these companies. They gave me a copy of the studies done on the project, and they also gave me the characteristics of the project, the energy potentials and the area to be irrigated. We also discussed and agreed on the strategy to be adopted to attract various financial backers, since if all things go well, ground will be broken for the project at the beginning of 1983.

I would like to remind my compatriots that we cannot build the dam at the (Nguigmi) site, and so because of a question of sovereignty, we will build it at the (Pandanki) site. The construction of this dam will increase our energy potentials fourfold.

[Reporter] Mr President, you met French President Valery Giscard d'Estaing yesterday, and on your way home today you made a stopover in Algiers, where you met President Chadli Bendjedid. What subjects did you discuss with these two heads of state?

[Kountche] Concerning the French head of state, since I do not often go to Europe, it was only natural that we should take enough time to review in detail the cooperation between our two countries. Among the subjects considered, I will cite the (Kandadie) Dam. As we did when we met 2 years ago, priority was given to the (?Sahel) problem. Of course, we also tackled the question of training in our university, which will soon start a teachers training program and later a faculty of economics and law. Since last year, we have been asking France to help us in setting up and running our university, and if France can do something in this field, it will be to train certain professionals.

Other subjects discussed with the French head of state concern the 40th anniversary of the (?drafting) of our compatriots by France for World War II. As I have already said elsewhere, there is some sort of discrimination between our veterans of World War II and their counterparts in other parts of West Africa. I reminded the French leader that since there is equality in the face of death, there should also be the same equality [word indistinct]. Without being too optimistic, I think the French president has realized the anomalies in the allocation of benefits, and no doubt their grievances will be redressed. Concerning the Algerian president, when I was going to Nice I (?met) him at the funeral of the Yugoslav head of state. We had time to talk. The Algerian-Niger Joint Commission will meet at the beginning of June, and we expect a lot from this commission, especially regarding the supply and installation of gas. I also raised the question of the trans-Saharan route with President Bendjedid. I had already held discussions with Nigerian President Shehu Shagari on the same subjects. This trans-Saharan route is not only of interest to Niger alone; it interests Nigeria and Algeria, too. Algeria has shown its interest not only on a bilateral and regional basis, but also we must not forget that Nigeria is part of our (?ethnic group). [end recording]

NIGERIA

SENEGALESE PRESIDENT WINDS UP STATE VISIT

Senghor, Shagari Speeches

LD141519 Lagos International Service in English 0830 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] President Leopold Senghor of Senegal is on the last lap of his state visit to Nigeria. The Senegalese leader, who has been in the country for the past 4 days, will address a new conference at state house, (Marina), this morning before leaving for home. A joint communique will also be signed. While in the country President Senghor held two rounds of talks with his host, President Shehu Shagari. The talks [word indistinct] ideas about a Nigeria-Senegal joint [passage indistinct] ways of further strengthening the Economic Community of West African States, ECOWAS, and at (?the official) level ways of improving cultural ties between the two countries were examined.

The Sengalese leader [words indistinct] and laid a wreath at the [words indistinct] cenotaph.

Speaking at a banquet last night, President Senghor expressed the hope that under the leadership of President Shagari, Nigeria would continue to tread the path of harmonious development. He stated that because of the convergent trends of development in both countries, bilateral cooperation between Nigeria and Senegal had been given a privileged character each year. He stated that President Shagari had (immense responsibility) not only to Nigeria but also to the 450 million Africans in the continent.

The Senegalese leader recalled that last October both countries entered into an air transport agreement which would soon be signed and become a part of the (trade) and cultural accord which was already in existence. On ECOWAS, the Senegalese leader praised Nigeria for not shirking her responsibilities in the organization which, he added, had contributed to its progress.

President Senghor spoke critically against the linguistic barriers dividing the continent into French-speaking, English-speaking, Arabic-speaking and Portuguese-speaking Africans. He stressed that the concern of his country and Nigeria was to break down these barriers by intensifying their efforts in cultural cooperation, pointing out that this was why English, Arabic and Portuguese were being taught in (close to 100) institutions in Senegal.

Earlier, President Shagari had paid tribute to the Senegalese leader's immense contribution to the political and economic development of his country and Africa, which, he said, had made him a (Doyen) of African leaders as well as a legend in his lifetime.

The Nigerian leader noted that the concept of African humanism and (word indistinct) were the indelible contributions President Senghor had made to the understanding of black civilization. He remarked that as the current chairman of the OAU and ECOWAS the Senegalese leader was continuing to make valuable contributions to the two organizations which were of immense importance to Nigeria.

On events in the continent, President Shagari called on African countries to redouble their efforts in Namibia which, as a result of violations of the OAU and United Nations resolutions by the racist regime in South Africa, was under illegal occupation. Nigeria, he said, deplored without any reservation any external intervention in Africa and believed firmly that Africans should be left alone to solve their own problems.

Joint Communique Issued

AB141728 Lagos International Service in English 1630 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Nigeria and Senegal are to set up a permanent joint economic commission. The two countries also pledged their determination to strengthen the existing cordial relations between them. These were contained in a joint communique signed in Lagos today at the end of a state visit to Nigeria by President Leopold Sedar Senghor.

The communique explained that the commission would explore avenues of promoting commercial and industrial cooperation between the two countries within the framework of the Economic Community of West Africa States, ECOWAS.

With regard to cultural exchanges, the two leaders agreed that a new protocol be signed to set out guidelines for the implementation of existing cultural agreements. President Shehu Shagari and President Leopold Senghor reaffirmed the commitments of their countries to the aims and objectives of ECOWAS.

They pledged to help forge, along with other member states of the community, the strengthening of ECOWAS into a political and economic base for cooperation within the subregion. The two leaders viewed with great concern the widening economic gap between the northern and southern regions of the world and noted the deterioration in the trade of developing countries. President Shehu Shagari and President Senghor endorsed the program of action adopted at the recent OAU economic summit and noted with satisfaction the attainment of independence and black majority rule in Zimbabwe. The two leaders pledged their continued support for SWAPO as the sole and authentic representative of the people of Namibia. They called on the racist regime to take all necessary steps to accelerate Namibia's transition to independence in accordance with the United Nations resolution. President Shagari and President Senghor expressed great concern at the continuing crisis in Chad. They reaffirmed their conviction that a solution should be found on the basis of a negotiated settlement within the framework of the Lagos accord and under the umbrella of the OAU. President Senghor extended an invitation to President Shagari to visit Senegal as soon as possible. The Senegalese leader has since left for home.

Senghor News Conference

AB142201 Lagos Domestic Service in English 2100 GMT 14 May 80

[Excerpt] President Leopold Sedar Senghor of Senegal has said that it is important for African countries to accept the principles of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries. President Senghor stated this at a news conference he gave in Lagos today before leaving for home at the end of his state visit to Nigeria. He remarked that the Organization of African Unity, OAU, should only intervene when destabilization or coup d'etat in any country was caused by external aggression. President Senghor condemned political assassination. On the question of the type of political system suitable for the continent, the Senegalese leader believed that it was only essential that the African political system should be to the benefit of the people of the continent. He added that there had always been several parties in Senegal and stressed that he still believed in the multiparty system. The president, however, suggested a one-party system for countries which had just attained independence. The most essential thing, he continued, was to insure that democracy was practiced within the party.

Senghor Departure

AB141150 Paris AFP in French 1135 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Lagos, 14 May (AFP)--The Senegalese president, Leopold Sedar Senghor, left Lagos on Wednesday morning at 1115 GMT for Dakar after a 4-day official visit to Nigeria.

PRESIDENT SHAGARI WILLING TO RECEIVE LIBERIAN DELEGATION

AB141529 Monrovia Radio ELWA in English 1500 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Nigerian President Alhaji Shehu Shagari has indicated his willingness to receive a Liberian delegation to Lagos, Nigeria, at the earliest date. This was disclosed in Monrovia yesterday by a press release from the Nigerian Embassy in Monrovia and published by the Liberian news agency. The release said that the Nigerian Government has explained to the Liberian Government events which led to the nonparticipation of the Liberian delegation at the OAU economic conference held in Lagos last month. The Nigerian Government's explanation, according to the release, noted that the change of government in Liberia was popular and (?added) that the Nigerian Government had no intention whatsoever of interfering in the internal affairs of the sister republic of Liberia. The Liberian Government has not indicated its reaction to the Nigerian Government's explanation.

SAO TOME & PRINCIPE

PRESIDENT DA COSTA REELECTED HEAD OF MLSTP

AB141944 Paris AFP in French 1816 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Luanda, 14 May (AFP)--The head of state of Sao Tome and Principe, Mr Pinto da Costa, was reelected as president of the MLSTP (Movement for the Liberation of Sao Tome and Principe) at an extraordinary congress of the party, the Angolan News Agency, ANGOP, has announced.

In a dispatch from Sao Tome, ANGOP states that Mr Pinto was also appointed by the congress as a candidate for the next presidential elections, the date of which is not yet known.

SENEGAL

SENGHOR RECEIVES MOROCCAN FOREIGN MINISTER

AB150745 Paris AFP in French 0614 GMT 15 May 80

[Text] Dakar, 15 May (AFP)--M. Leopold Sedar Senghor, president of Senegal and current chairman of the OAU, on Wednesday received a message from King Hassan II of Morocco touching on the developments in western Sahara. The message was conveyed by M'hamed Boucetta, minister of state in charge of foreign affairs, who arrived in Dakar on Wednesday.

Mr Boucetta told the Senegalese press agency that the Morocco Royal Forces totally control the situation in western Sahara, after having successfully repelled all agressions on Moroccan territory. They have destroyed all arms caches, he said, and troops are carrying on the mopping-up operations, which will be completed in the next few weeks.

The Moroccan minister ascribed the Moroccan successes to the adaption of the troops to the actual situation and the use of more efficient arms. Morocco is concurrently engaged in an i[illegible]rmation campaign with African countries, some of which had been deluded by fallacious propaganda. Mr Boucetta left Dakar on Wednesday evening for Rabat.

NAMIBIA

SECURITY FORCES TO BE INTERNALLY CONTROLLED

LD141048 Pretoria Information Service of South Africa in English 1000 GMT 14 May 80

[Text] Cape Town--It has been agreed to transfer control of the South-West Africa/Namibia security forces to the South-West Africa-Namibia administration, says a statement released on 1980/05/13.

The statement came after a meeting here between the Prime Minister Mr P.W. Botha and the administrator-general of South-West Africa/Namibia, Dr Gerrit Viljoen.

The meeting was also attended by the Minister of Police and Prison Mr Louis Le Grange.

The statement says that following the announcement by the prime minister in the House of Assembly that the South African Government (?was prepared to transfer control of the South-West Africa/Namibia security ?forces) to the administration of the territory, the [word indistinct] was discussed at the meeting.

It was agreed that the transfer will take place.

BRIEFS

ANGOLAN DELEGATION TO LISBON--An Angolan Government delegation led by Industry and Energy Deputy Minister Comrade (Lopes de Camara) this morning flew to the Portuguese capital of Lisbon for talks with officials on increasing cooperation in the field of electricity. The delegation was composed of national directors of the Ministry of Industry and Energy and their counterparts from the National Bank of Angola. The delegation also includes technical advisers from the Ministry of Industry and Energy. [Text] [Luanda Domestic Service in English 1130 GMT 13 May 80 AB]